

Published by...  
AY NEED...  
FOR SALE...  
...  
10's Prizes...  
...  
Strike over Saturdays, page 5

## Agreement on EEC posts after angry dispute

Mrs Margaret Thatcher intervened personally on behalf of Mr Christopher Tugendhat, one of the British European Commissioners, as the allocation of posts in the new Commission degenerated into an acrimonious, arm-twisting argument in Brussels early yesterday. Mr Tugendhat emerged with his powers intact and added responsibility.

## New President in clash with Mrs Thatcher

From Michael Horsnell, Brussels, Jan 8  
The distribution of posts in the new European Commission was finally agreed here early today after scenes of acrimony, insults, and arm-twisting by at least one national government for which even old hands in Brussels could recall few parallels.  
The outcome was not at all bad for Britain's two Commissioners, Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the former Conservative MP, who has been appointed to serve another four-year term, and Mr Ivor Richard, the former Labour MP and British Ambassador to the United Nations, a newcomer to Brussels.  
Mr Tugendhat retained control of the EEC budget and the Community's financial institutions, and was also entrusted with taxation policy, previously a separate portfolio under another Commissioner.  
For his part Mr Richard obtained employment and social affairs, education and vocational training policy, and responsibility for organizing the periodic "tripartite" conferences between EEC trade unions, employers and member governments.  
This satisfactory result was achieved, however, only after a fierce clash between Mr Tugendhat and Mr Gaston Thorn, the new President of the Commission, in which the British Commissioner in effect accused the former Luxembourg Prime Minister of double-crossing him and hatching a plot to whittle down his job.  
Mrs Margaret Thatcher, in circumstances which are still not entirely clear, then also became involved in the dispute, demanding to speak on the telephone to Mr Thorn, who at first refused to take her call.  
In tones of high dudgeon, the Prime Minister, who at that stage had only Mr Tugendhat's version of events, was reported by one well-placed source as having told Mr Thorn that what he was proposing was a calculated insult to Britain.  
Mr Thorn, deftly fielding questions at a press conference this morning about his talk with Mrs Thatcher, said that "some people had been trying to impose things on me and we had to clear that up".  
Mrs Thatcher had wanted assurances on certain points, and he believed he had been able to give them.  
All this sound and fury arose out of Mr Thorn's attempts to find a worthwhile job for Mr

## RAF patrol's bravery praised after bomb blast

By Stewart Tindler and Derek Barnett  
A bomb wrecked part of a barracks at RAF Uxbridge, West London, last night, seconds after Servicemen had dragged away drums of petrol packed round the device. Their action prevented the blast from causing greater damage and fire.  
Up to 10 Servicemen were evacuated from the building before the explosion and the only casualties were two civilians who were slightly hurt by flying glass.  
Last night there were no indications of responsibility for the bomb. The Ministry of Defence said security at Service bases had recently been tightened against any attacks over the Christmas period and RAF Uxbridge had its own detachment of Ministry of Defence police.  
The bomb was placed just inside the double doors of a three-storey barracks called Sula, which was not far from the camp perimeter.  
The explosives were placed in a blue satchel similar to RAF issue and four five-gallon plastic drums of petrol were placed round it. The drums, of a type used for liquids such as vinegar, had taps which were turned on so that petrol began to trickle out. The petrol seepage would have increased the effectiveness of the device.  
But shortly after 5.30 pm a policeman, on a routine patrol saw the barrels and then the satchel with wires hanging out. As the alarm was raised the policeman, the station warner officer, and an airman carried the drums away from the satchel to a stretch of grass near by.  
They had just set down the last of the drums when the bomb exploded. Later Deputy Assistant Commissioner David Powis, head of London's CID, said the men had acted "with courage and they have my admiration".  
The blast caused extensive damage to the ground floor of the building which is used for Servicemen in transit.  
RAF Uxbridge was opened during the First World War for the Royal Flying Corps and many Servicemen were trained there between the wars.  
It became an important control centre for RAF fighters during the Battle of Britain and now houses training facilities for musicians in the RAF Regiment's Queen's Colour Squadron, and Servicemen's records.  
Claim denied - An anonymous telephone caller to The Sun in London yesterday claimed responsibility on behalf of the Scottish Socialist Republican League for the parcel bomb addressed to the Prime Minister and defused at a sorting office in London on Wednesday. Later, however, the league said it had had nothing to do with the bomb.  
The bomb was discovered at the Howick Place sorting office in Westminster, by Mr Edward Hamilton, aged 60, a postman, who was handling parcels marked on a pile of parcels containing a bomb.  
Mrs Thatcher said yesterday: "I am very grateful and pleased to see that our postmen are so vigilant".

## Royal commission wants network of Crown prosecutors' departments to be established Wider stop and search powers recommended for police

By Marcel Berlins and Frances Gibb  
An extension of some police powers, coupled with safeguards to protect suspects in detention and under interrogation, are proposed by the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure, in a report published yesterday.  
The new powers were attacked by some groups as sweeping and excessive, but were welcomed by the Police Federation as a help on the beat.  
In contrast, some of the proposals for safeguards for suspects which would be formulated in a new statutory code, were welcomed by civil liberty groups, but Sir David McNeen, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, said that they would make the task of the police in dealing with serious crime more difficult.  
Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said that the report was unique in its scope and thoroughness. The Government would have full discussion on the recommendations before reaching any conclusions.  
Many of the commission's proposals on police powers are designed to rationalize anomalous laws, and make them uniform throughout England and Wales, but in some cases extensions of powers are recommended.  
The police would have wider powers to stop and search people in the street, or vehicles, for stolen goods, or on reasonable suspicion of possessing prohibited articles such as drugs or firearms. But the reasons for the stop and search would have to be noted in the policeman's notebook and the person must be informed of them.  
A new power would be given to the police to enter premises to look for evidence of serious crime, provided certain stringent criteria were met.  
The law on arrest would be extended to allow a policeman to arrest without warrant anyone suspected of any imprisonable offence, but only in specified conditions according to what the commission calls the "necessity principle", which includes stopping an offence being committed.  
A policeman who saw an offence being committed would have the power to arrest the apparent culprit if he or she refused to give his or her name and address.  
Once in detention, if a suspect has not been charged within six hours, a senior police officer would have to make sure that grounds for detention still existed.  
After 24 hours without charge, the police would have to seek permission from a magistrate's court to keep a suspect longer. The suspect would be entitled to see a solicitor.  
The magistrates' decision to allow the police to keep a suspect longer would become subject to appeal after the second 24-hour extension. The commission proposes that a detailed code of practice governing police interrogation should replace the Judges' Rules.  
The commission does not recommend tape recording all police interviews, but says that, after interrogation, a police officer should record a summary of the interrogation on tape, and ask the suspect for his comments.  
Special rules are proposed for the questioning of juveniles and mentally handicapped people. Juveniles should only be interviewed in the presence of an adult.  
Continued on page 3, col 6



The Queen at Windsor yesterday for the funeral of Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, with (from left) Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester, Princess Paul of Yugoslavia, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and former Queen Juliana of The Netherlands. Report, page 12.

## Test case on bidding at art auction

By Kenneth Gostling, Arts Reporter  
Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney General, has authorized proceedings against Thomas Agnew and Sons Ltd, the leading London art dealer, over the sale of the Algalardi bust of Mgr Cerri at Christie's in September, 1979.  
Summons have been served under section 1 of the Auctions (Bidding Agreements) Act, 1927, and are returnable at Bow Street Magistrates' Court next Friday. The Attorney General's office said yesterday that the proceedings would in some ways be a test case intended to help to clarify the present law.  
The relevant section of the Act says: "If any dealer agrees to give, or offers any particular lot, or for any person agrees to accept, or attempts to obtain from any dealer any such gift or consideration as aforesaid, he shall be guilty of an offence under this Act."  
Dealers can remain within the law provided that before an auction there has been an agreement in writing, a copy of which is deposited with the auctioneer.  
The Reviewing Committee on the Exploitation of Works of Art, the Attorney General's office said, was aware of the feelings of uncertainty as to the precise scope of the Act among many directly affected by it and, on the other hand, of the informed concern expressed about certain aspects of the sale by auction of valuable works of art that formed part of the national heritage.  
The relevant section of the Act says: "If any dealer agrees to give, or offers any particular lot, or for any person agrees to accept, or attempts to obtain from any dealer any such gift or consideration as aforesaid, he shall be guilty of an offence under this Act."  
Dealers can remain within the law provided that before an auction there has been an agreement in writing, a copy of which is deposited with the auctioneer.

## Russian defects from military talks team

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Jan 8  
Mr Viktor Nikolayevich Korolyuk, aged 35, the interpreter for the Soviet delegation at the Vienna troop reduction negotiations, has defected to West Germany, a Government spokesman confirmed today.  
Reports by the Austrian news agency APA and the Stuttgarter Zeitung said he had brought with him confidential Soviet documents about the east block's future strategy at the manual and balanced force reduction (MABER) talks between the Western alliance and the Warsaw Pact powers.  
They said he flew from Vienna to Düsseldorf on December 17 and was taken to an undisclosed spot by the West German intelligence service for questioning.  
A Government spokesman confirmed that Mr Korolyuk had entered West Germany but declined to give any further details.  
However, official sources described Mr Korolyuk as "a man who could tell us a lot".  
Russians gone - The Park Hotel in Baden, south of Vienna, stated that the Soviet delegation left there for Moscow on December 20 after the latest round of talks ended. It was not expected back until January 20.  
The latest round of the 19-nation talks, which have gone on for seven years, ended on December 18. The Warsaw Pact then said that it would not change its position despite Western contentions that it had misrepresented its troop strength.  
Disagreements over troop levels which NATO says the Warsaw pact understates by 150,000 men, have bogged down the talks for years.—Reuter.

## Society faces cash loss investigation

By Margaret Stone  
The police are investigating alleged irregularities in the Alfreton Building Society in Derbyshire.  
Mr John Flanders, chairman of the £54m building society, said in a letter to the society's 3,500 members yesterday that the board "for some time has been concerned about the possible irregularities in the affairs of the Alfreton society".  
The Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies and Building Societies Association, were made aware of the difficulties last week and an effective rescue operation was mounted.  
Pending the outcome of the inquiries, Mr Roy Ward, aged 51, the society's secretary, has been suspended.  
Some months ago the Alfreton Society had been discussing a possible transfer of engagements with the neighbouring Britannia Building Society, with assets of well over £1,000m, is the tenth largest society and well experienced in building society takeovers.  
Business was brisker than usual yesterday at the Alfreton High Street branch in Alfreton. But, as yet, there is no possibility of a run on the society by worried members, the Britannia, with the required approval from the Chief Registrar, had ferried employees and money to the town.  
The society's difficulties came less than three years after the big defalcation at the Grays Building Society in Essex. That led to calls for an official society rescue fund and for more stringent requirements for building society auditors.  
On line of inquiry being pursued by the police is the possibility that cheques were drawn against members' accounts. Until a detailed check has been made, however, it will not be possible to determine the full extent of the losses.  
Financial Editor, page 15

## British beef for Poland at 34p per lb

By Hugh Clayton, Agriculture Correspondent  
British beef is to be sold to Poland at a bargain price of 34p a pound. The latest official survey of British shop prices states that "cheap" new year beef costs on average £1.08 a pound.  
The price for Poland has been fixed by the European Commission in Brussels for 1,000 tonnes of meat from the British share of the EEC beef "mountain". It will form part of a sale of 15,000 tonnes to be included in an EEC package of cheap food to help Poland.  
The Commission has ordered that the 1,000 tonnes from Britain must be sold in one lot at a price of £75,000. If more than one offer is received the winner will be decided by lottery.  
Strict conditions have been imposed by the Commission to prevent cheap food earmarked for Poland being diverted to such forbidden destinations as the Soviet Union. For the purposes of the beef sale the usual deposit of about £35 a tonne required by Brussels for the sale of cheap food outside the EEC has been raised to £649 a tonne.  
If the meat is sold it will be handled by a trader in Western Europe who can convince the Commission that he has a guarantee of purchase from Poland. No offers have yet been received.  
Credit talks: Talks about extending credit arrangements to Poland, including the financing of food supplies, will be held by the main Western creditor nations in Paris on January 16 (Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes).  
Strike over Saturdays, page 5

## Rail strike threat suspended after management plea

Train drivers' leaders voted by six to three to suspend the threat to disrupt services so that a joint approach with British Rail management could be made to the Government for more investment in the railways.  
The strike threat was suspended after an impassioned appeal by Sir Peter Parver, British Rail chairman, not to jeopardize the chance of government aid by taking militant action. He said glittering promises would be won.

## First Reagan Cabinet

President-elect Ronald Reagan presided over the first full meeting of his future Cabinet in Washington. Its purpose was to review the goals set by the incoming administration and the meeting was later described as "a seminar to understand each other".

## Liquidations record

More companies than ever went out of business in 1980. By the end of the year 5,814 companies had gone into liquidation in England and Wales. But about 143,000 new firms or partnerships were at least provisionally registered, of which 57,000 were new companies.

## Steel 'survival' backed

Workers at British Steel's Port Talbot plant have accepted the corporation's survival plan. The decision is significant in view of the corporation's battle of its entire workforce for acceptance of its strategy of more plant closures, job losses and a six-month wage freeze.

## Alvar Lidell dies

Alvar Lidell, the broadcaster, whose voice was known to millions by the phrase "Here is the news and this is Alvar Lidell reading it", has died aged 72. He was a regular broadcaster for 37 years until he retired in 1969. Obituary, page 12

## Intensive Tehran talks on American hostages

The Algerian intermediaries in the American hostages issue have been locked in intensive discussions with Iranian officials. It appears that Tehran wants to settle the matter before the Reagan Administration takes office. Mr Warren Christopher, the American Deputy Secretary of State, has arrived in Algiers for talks with Mr Muhammad Sadik El Bahi, Algeria's Foreign Minister.

## Golden handshakes

Nine former directors of Spillers, the food group, left with "golden handshakes" totalling £1.7m after Spillers was taken over by Dalgety, the international meat group. Mr Michael Moore, managing director of Coral Leisure, the gambling group, is expected to receive about £200,000 on his resignation from the company.

## 'Hostility' to graduates

Some of Britain's new universities are of a poor standard and an "active embarrassment", according to a "government liaison officer for education. He expects there will be increased hostility towards graduates by employers and he warns universities that they must face up to scepticism.

## Water action threat

Among several militant decisions by public sector union leaders, the National Union of Public Employees recommended unspecified industrial action by water workers over the employers' refusal to increase their offer of a 2.9 per cent pay rise. The employers were accused of a serious misjudgment.

## Cheap fares plea: Sir Freddie Laker has taken delivery of his first Airbus

Civil Service jobs: MPs attack delay in dispersal to Scotland  
Madrid: Mosques for Córdoba have caused a dispute between bishop and mayor  
Classified advertisements: Personal, pages 20, 22; Recruitment opportunities, 19, 20; Car buyers' guide, 20

## Namibia conference settles status issue

A formula was devised at the United Nations-sponsored Geneva conference on Namibia to allow the internal parties recognition at the meeting without undermining its bilateral status. This amounted to personal introductions, considered a victory for the parties. The South West Africa People's Organization countered with a gesture of unity.

## Golden handshakes

Nine former directors of Spillers, the food group, left with "golden handshakes" totalling £1.7m after Spillers was taken over by Dalgety, the international meat group. Mr Michael Moore, managing director of Coral Leisure, the gambling group, is expected to receive about £200,000 on his resignation from the company.

## 'Hostility' to graduates

Some of Britain's new universities are of a poor standard and an "active embarrassment", according to a "government liaison officer for education. He expects there will be increased hostility towards graduates by employers and he warns universities that they must face up to scepticism.

## Water action threat

Among several militant decisions by public sector union leaders, the National Union of Public Employees recommended unspecified industrial action by water workers over the employers' refusal to increase their offer of a 2.9 per cent pay rise. The employers were accused of a serious misjudgment.

## Cheap fares plea: Sir Freddie Laker has taken delivery of his first Airbus

Civil Service jobs: MPs attack delay in dispersal to Scotland  
Madrid: Mosques for Córdoba have caused a dispute between bishop and mayor  
Classified advertisements: Personal, pages 20, 22; Recruitment opportunities, 19, 20; Car buyers' guide, 20

### Je Reviens

Let Je Reviens be your message from now on - as a perfume, a cologne, a soap, a bath foam, a shower gel, a hair conditioner and other bathroom luxuries.

From high class stores, selected chemists and the larger branches of Boots.

## LES PARFUMS WORTH PARIS

Worth Perfumes Ltd, 260 Times Road, London W4 3RG Tel: 01-994 2372/5











## HOME NEWS

## 'Embarrassingly poor' standards at some of the new universities

By Diana Geddes  
Education Correspondent

Some of Britain's universities are of such poor standard as to be an "acute embarrassment" to the nation, the Government's liaison officer for higher and further education said yesterday.

Speaking at the universities conference of the National Union of Students in Coventry, Mr Robert Rhodes James, Conservative MP for Cambridge and a former director of the Institute of Development Studies at Sussex University, said: "There is no question that the actual performance of certain of the new universities has been remarkably and worryingly uneven."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

If the universities did not face the facts, he expected the inevitable decline of certain universities "for the simple reason that parents and teachers are not going to send the best young people there."

He also expected an increased hostility of employers towards university graduates, which he said was already evident. That would lead to increased opposition by parents about sending their children.

None of this is likely to affect seriously the established and famous universities. But for several others the icy winds of recession and public scepticism are swirling ominously and bleakly—and depressingly few of them seem to have the faintest idea of the existence of these movements, let alone their strength, because they have made the most fatal of errors—they have lost touch with those they are meant to serve.

Mr James sought to defend the traditional university education. He said that a university should be a "centered place where the love of learning for its own sake should be fostered as a precious and enduring quality against the assault of the phenomena of materialism. It should neither be derided nor even apologized for, he said.

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

## Computers could cut school time, peer says

From John O'Leary  
The Times Higher Education Supplement

New technology could save the Government £500m annually by cutting a year off the average time a pupil spent in the education system, Lord Perry of Walton, former Vice-Chancellor of the Open University, said yesterday.

He told the North of England Education Conference in Carlisle that the coming technological revolution would be as significant as the introduction of printing presses. The result, he said, would be a "communications explosion" which would force education into radical and necessary changes.

"There has been over several centuries a steady acceleration in the rate of acquisition of knowledge," Lord Perry said. "It seems to me that education has not successfully adjusted to this change in a gradual pattern; so that we are in a state of disequilibrium where there will have to be a quantum jump in order to restore the balance."

New technology would make it possible for pupils to choose from a vast range of expertly prepared courses, called up by personal computer terminals from a national library. The only constraint to choice would be the breadth of education considered desirable, he said.

Although such a service could be provided at home there were many good reasons for retaining schools. Teachers would assume a more generalist role as specialists' courses would be available centrally.

Experience had shown that remarkable results were produced when children were stimulated by subjects. They did not share the adult's fear of computers, and most could be expected to progress more quickly under an individualized, self-instructional system, he argued.

It might be possible as a result to reduce the average time spent in initial education by a year, which would produce a saving of £500m at today's prices.

Any such change would require political commitment on a scale much greater than that which produced the Open University. Because of educational resistance to change and the vast vested interest in retaining the status quo, he thought a Third World country was most likely to give a lead.

Mr Ellis claims that at the heart of the crisis lies the governmental system of British and parliamentary democracy based on the motto of 'Parliamentary sovereignty'.

"As we complacently refer to our legislature, which is now one of the most unsatisfactory in the Western world."

In the first instance, he says, Parliament has been rendered ineffective by a system of government in which the gladiatorial posturing of opposing spokesmen in a confrontational House of Commons have produced a parody of objective parliamentary scrutiny.

The government of the day, he claims, urgently dictates policy to a Parliament that serves merely as a rubber stamp to give it effect.

Secondly, he states, the sectional interests served by the two main parties, the trade unions and the employers, mean that the interests of the general public go unrepresented.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

The proposal, drawn up by the special trustees of University College Hospital with help from Private Patients Plan, went to Camden and Islington Area Health Authority on Monday, but the authority has blocked the proposal until at least next year.

The authority said yesterday that no decision was taken on two grounds. The first was that the proposal did not form part of the area's strategic plan up to 1984, and that Monday's meeting was the first time the authority had heard of the proposal. The second was that under the reorganization of the health service, Camden and Islington Area Health Authority will cease to exist in March, 1982.

The price war among Channel ferry companies looks set to continue with a new range of fares from British Rail. Sealink yesterday which, the company says, undercuts those announced last month by Townsend Thoresen and P & O.

P & O promptly retaliated with matching cuts on some services and the promise of a new brochure with lower prices. Townsend Thoresen also said: "We are not going to be beaten by anybody."

The most attractive Sealink fare (matched by P & O) is £12.50 for a car and driver to the Continent until April. Sealink also offers reduced fares on summer sailings.

Sealink cuts its fares in ferry price war

By Our Shipping Correspondent

The price war among Channel ferry companies looks set to continue with a new range of fares from British Rail. Sealink yesterday which, the company says, undercuts those announced last month by Townsend Thoresen and P & O.

P & O promptly retaliated with matching cuts on some services and the promise of a new brochure with lower prices. Townsend Thoresen also said: "We are not going to be beaten by anybody."

The most attractive Sealink fare (matched by P & O) is £12.50 for a car and driver to the Continent until April. Sealink also offers reduced fares on summer sailings.

Sealink cuts its fares in ferry price war

By Our Shipping Correspondent

The price war among Channel ferry companies looks set to continue with a new range of fares from British Rail. Sealink yesterday which, the company says, undercuts those announced last month by Townsend Thoresen and P & O.

## WEST EUROPE

## Italian Communists prepare for taking their share of power

From John Earle  
Rome, Jan 8

The Italian Communist Party, with more than 1,700,000 members the biggest western party, is preparing to overhaul its rusty machinery and make itself fit for, one day, becoming the leading party in government.

This claim was staked in 1970 November by Signor Enrico Berlinguer, its secretary, who after the repeated scandals affecting the Christian Democrats and the margin of the government's defeat in the southern Italian earthquake, said the Communists could envisage leading a coalition.

The party has covered much ground in recent months. It has publicly condemned any idea of a Soviet attempt to intervene in Poland. It sees its international future in Eurocommunism and in developing links with left-wing forces in Europe, playing in particular an active role in the European Parliament. At home, it regards itself as the spearhead of those who want to halt the deterioration in Italian society.

But the leadership has found the party machinery ill equipped for this task, and the involvement of the rank and file is in danger of diminishing. A meeting of the central committee to discuss how to remedy this was held yesterday and today under the guidance of Signor Giorgio Napolitano, a member of the party secretariat.

The party membership rose by 20 per cent between 1970 and 1976, but Signor Napolitano noted that it had been dwindling in recent years, even though the fall slowed to 7,000 last year, after one of 23,000 in 1975 and 31,000 in 1979. Party membership stood at 1,752,000 at the end of 1980.

He identified two problems in particular: young people and the South. The party's youth organization lost 74,000 members last year. In the south, the party tended to become too involved in local political arrangements and was too distant from economic and social realities.

But Signor Napolitano's main criticisms were aimed at the party machinery. He said: "The line to be followed is that of a decisive renewal in the style of work and in the method of direction at all levels."

He spoke of confusion and muddle in party structures, and of ritualism and suffocating bureaucracy. Many people were discouraged from taking an active part in party life by the repetitiveness of meetings, the prolixity and generality—and indeed the inconclusiveness—of discussions, as well as by the absence of a slogan which does not at all reflect an effort at cultural analysis.

The central committee's debates should be more agile and incisive, he said. Taking an example from it, party meetings did not need to conclude with unanimous votes. More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

ling in recent years, even though the fall slowed to 7,000 last year, after one of 23,000 in 1975 and 31,000 in 1979. Party membership stood at 1,752,000 at the end of 1980.

He identified two problems in particular: young people and the South. The party's youth organization lost 74,000 members last year. In the south, the party tended to become too involved in local political arrangements and was too distant from economic and social realities.

But Signor Napolitano's main criticisms were aimed at the party machinery. He said: "The line to be followed is that of a decisive renewal in the style of work and in the method of direction at all levels."

He spoke of confusion and muddle in party structures, and of ritualism and suffocating bureaucracy. Many people were discouraged from taking an active part in party life by the repetitiveness of meetings, the prolixity and generality—and indeed the inconclusiveness—of discussions, as well as by the absence of a slogan which does not at all reflect an effort at cultural analysis.

The central committee's debates should be more agile and incisive, he said. Taking an example from it, party meetings did not need to conclude with unanimous votes. More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

More democracy was needed, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary" degeneration, such as the Italian parties with their internal groupings.

</



## OVERSEAS

## Intensive discussions on hostages issue as Iranians try to avoid deal with new US administration

Tehran, Jan 8.—Algerian intermediaries in the American hostage issue held "intensive" discussions with Iranian officials lasting until the early hours of this morning, diplomatic sources said.

No details were disclosed, but other sources have said the Iranians were making efforts to reach an early settlement rather than deal with the incoming Reagan Administration which takes office in 12 days.

The sources said that the latest round of talks between Iran and three Algerian envoys coincided with a sudden trip to Algiers by Mr Warren Christopher, the United States Deputy Secretary of State. The envoys said only that they had no immediate plans to leave Tehran for home.

Any details of their talks could be relayed through the Algerian embassy here as were a list of questions the Iranians submitted two days ago on the latest American proposals for the hostages' release.

The Iranians' apparent reluctance to deal with a Reagan Administration comes after American officials warned Tehran that the negotiations might have to start all over again. Sources said the Iranian negotiators—for once in agreement with their American counterparts—doubt that an immediate breakthrough is likely because of the many technicalities involved.

Secrecy shrouds much of the detail of the latest exchanges

on the hostages but Iran's concern to find a speedy settlement should mean that its reply to the new American proposals will be ready in the next few days, possibly during Mr Christopher's visit to Algeria where he is having talks with Mr Muhammad Sodik Binyahia, the Foreign Minister.

Diplomats in Tehran regarded the Christopher mission as a positive sign, saying he would hardly travel to Algeria if Iran was still a long way from drawing up its response.

The main problem still appears to be Iran's demand for \$24,000m (about £12,000m) as a deposit to cover repayment of Iranian assets blocked in the United States and part of the late Shah's wealth.

Diplomatic sources say the United States has raised its offer to about \$8,000m and the gap may be narrowed when American efforts to help Iran locate other funds are taken into account.

Some signs of flexibility in the Iranian position have been detected by diplomats here, including more frequent references to the word "undertaking" instead of the harder edged "guarantee".

But it is believed that, if only for domestic political reasons, the Iranians feel they must achieve a final settlement which at least looks similar to their demands.—Reuter.

President-elect Reagan, who could inherit the task of securing the hostages' freedom.

As Iranian authorities prepared their response to the latest American proposals, a radio commentary said Mr Reagan's "slogan of militarism" meant he was doomed to meet the same ignominious fate as Presidents Nixon and Carter. This would happen, the state-owned radio said, because American imperialism was in the throes of decline in the face of growing liberation movements. The radio does not necessarily reflect government views.

Iranian politicians and commentators had said they did not care whether Mr Reagan or Mr Carter won last November's election but lately they have become increasingly hostile towards Mr Reagan and reacted violently to his saying that the captors of the hostages were barbarians.

Carter hope: President Carter said today that he believed his Administration's latest offer to Tehran was "fair" to both countries (David Cross writes from Washington).

He said he hoped that the long crisis would be resolved before he left office on January 20 but he could not make any predictions—"I don't want to raise any unwarranted expectations. Every time we've had a favourable response from the Iranians, later on we're disappointed."

## News analysis

## Iran's counter-attack euphoria unjustified

By Drew Middleton  
Military Affairs Correspondent of The New York Times

Fighting in Iran has intensified as a result of a counter-offensive that President Bani-Sadr announced on Monday, but analysts in the United States and other Western countries say they find no basis for Iran's claims of great victories.

Some advances appear to have occurred, the analysts add. But they say that the main Iraqi positions around Ahvaz, capital of the oil-producing province of Khuzestan, and Abadan, have been held.

There is general agreement among the experts that Iran's attack is running out of steam. One Nato expert said that Iranian gains in Khuzestan were probably less important than the successful Iraqi invasion of the Iranian province of Kurdistan to the north.

The Iranian counter-offensive, according to Western analysts, was made possible by the careful concentration of regular and Islamic Revolutionary Guards around Dezful at the northern end of the Khuzestan front.

Analysts, who at first discounted Iran's announcement of a counter-offensive, said on the basis of later information that elements of two or three armoured divisions employing British-made Chieftain tanks, supported by regular infantry and Revolutionary Guards, launched the main attack from the Dezful concentration area toward Susangerd and Ahvaz.

The Iraqis, who had been aware of an offensive since the Iranians had made no secret of their intentions, were well prepared for the attack, according to the analysts.

The Iraqis began to send Soviet-made MIG fighter-bombers over the battlefield to engage the advancing Iranians, whose air support was described as minimal.

Most of the fighting, the

analysts reported, was in what is called the Ahvaz corridor between that city and Dezful.

Their information, analysts said, does not confirm the Iranian claims that the counter-offensive wiped out two Iraqi brigades, killed 500 troops and taking 1,000 prisoners. Nor is there anything to verify Iranian reports that the Iraqi line is crumbling in Khuzestan.

Iraq says that its armoured and infantry forces have contained an Iranian attack around Susangerd and Ahvaz, and are under fire from helicopter gunships and long-range artillery.

According to Nato analysts, Iran's counter-offensive has been only marginally successful for reasons that have plagued its forces since the start of the war. These, they said, are faulty or at times nonexistent communications between forward troops and headquarters, the absence of a coherent battle plan and political conditions that make surprise attacks virtually impossible.

The Iranians had talked about the coming counter-offensive for at least two weeks before it was launched, analysts pointed out, and Iraqi reconnaissance aircraft could have easily missed the movement of troops and supplies to the Dezful concentration area.

If the counter-offensive is put in its political context, analysts said, it is easy to understand the extravagant claims put out by the Iranians. Iraqi communiques, too, are exaggerated but those on the Iranian side are considered more fanciful.

Diplomats and military analysts agree that President Bani-Sadr needed a victory in the field to support his fight for power in Tehran. On Tuesday, he proclaimed the offensive a success and analysts in Washington and London believe his political future rests on the Iranian forces' ability to deliver a genuine victory rather than an illusory victory.

## Iraq says it wiped out an entire armoured brigade

From Tewfik Mishlawi  
Beirut, Jan 8

Iraq said today that Iranian losses during the past three days of fierce fighting were three times the size of losses sustained by Iraq since the Gulf War started over three months ago.

An Iraqi communiqué said the Iraq forces "have turned Susangerd into a graveyard for the remaining Iranian forces". It said a whole Iranian armoured brigade was totally wiped out and 15 missile bases destroyed.

Mr Taha Yassin Ramadan, a member of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council, also said that the battles this week were "no less important than those in the first two days of the

war," which erupted last September 22. This was the first implicit admission by a senior Iraqi official that Iranian counter-offensive, which Iran said its forces had launched at the beginning of the week.

Mr Ramadan, who is also commander of Iraq's paramilitary organisation called the People's Army, made the announcement in an address to armed units who were sent to reinforce the regular army fighting on the 300-mile front-line between Iraq and Iran.

In his speech, broadcast by Baghdad radio, Mr Ramadan said the fighting this week raised on a front especially around the Iranian town of Susangerd in the central sector of the front-line.

## Namibia conference finally starts work

From Nicholas Ashford  
Geneva, Jan 8

The pre-implementation conference on Namibia (South West Africa), sponsored by the United Nations, finally got down to work this afternoon. The question of the status of the internal parties had been resolved after almost 30 hours of intensive behind-the-scenes negotiations.

A formula was devised whereby the eight internal parties were able to be introduced separately without undermining a pre-conference agreement that the meeting should be between only two delegations—The South West Africa People's Organisation (Swapo) and a South African delegation led by Mr P. W. Botha.

Mr Botha, though, the Administrator-General of the disputed territory, which included the internal parties.

This afternoon, Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary General, presided over a ceremony in which Mr Botha introduced representatives of the parties within his delegation, each member standing up when his name was called out.

However, Mr Sam Nujoma, the Swapo leader, then responding by introducing his delegation, said that the conference was "one and united". To emphasize this point, the entire Swapo team simultaneously rose to their feet and gave clenched fist salutes.

From the point of view of the internal parties, they have managed to score a significant point by finally having themselves formally presented at the conference table. This should help to reassure their supporters and the white South African electorate, that they are not going to allow Swapo to run rings around them at Geneva. However their victory is in many respects a hollow one.

In terms of publicity and political point-scoring (which is what this manoeuvre was all about) there can be little doubt that whatever advantage the internal parties gained by this afternoon's declaration was overshadowed by Swapo's dramatic gesture of solidarity.

The conference has at last succeeded in bringing together members of opposing sides who had never met before. At a cocktail party last night, members of Swapo and internal Namibian leaders chatted together over champagne and glass and tonic. Mr Nujoma was seen to shake hands with all the white members of the right-wing Akur delegation.

Lieutenant-General Janine Goldenhuys, former commander of the South African forces in Namibia, who was responsible for South African raids into southern Angola, chatted amicably to members of the Angolan observer team as well as to Swapo leaders.

"This is even more remarkable than seeing the Rhodesians talking to their terrorists at the Lancaster House conference," one South African official remarked.

## 'Buckeye three' dropped from white school roll

From Michael Leapman  
Buckeye, Louisiana, Jan 8

A federal judge won the latest round here today in a bitter squabble with the state court over where three white girls should go to school. The three did not appear at Buckeye High School classes this morning. Mr Charles Waites, the headmaster, said he was dropping them from the rolls.

They had been allowed to attend the all-white school for the first three days of the new term despite the decision by Mr Nauman Scott, the federal judge, that they had to go to a mixed-race school in Alexandria, 25 miles away. Mr Richard Lee, a state judge, had ruled that custody of the children could be transferred

to surrogate parents who lived in the Buckeye attendance zone.

On Tuesday and yesterday Mr Lee had gone to the school to instruct Mr Waites to let the girls in. Yesterday he said he would not be there today because he had been served an order by Mr Scott to appear in court next week to answer a charge of contempt of court.

Mr Waites said he would not admit the girls unless Mr Lee was there to make him do so. That is presumably why they were kept away today.

Announcing the dismissal of the girls with reluctance, Mr Waites made a passionate personal statement of support for their rights to attend his school. "The federal judges are running our schools and

I'm sick and tired of it," he said. "I'm ready to see our schools run by local boards."

Speaking out against our judicial system, I believe they've been interpreting the Constitution wrongly. The dispute arises from a desegregation order issued by Mr Scott last August. Under it, about 100 pupils from Buckeye were assigned to a mixed-race school in Alexandria.

Rather than have them travel so far by bus, most parents, who insist that race is not the issue here, enrolled the children at a private school. Among them is Mr Waites, himself, whose 12-year-old son is now at a private school. But the parents of "the Buckeye three," as they are

## Israel officer refutes UN accusation

From Moshe Brilliant  
Tel Aviv, Jan 8

The Israeli lieutenant-colonel who led the last phase of Arab guerrillas across the Lebanese border on Christmas Day strongly refuted a United Nations allegation that his men blew up the bodies of five terrorists killed in an engagement.

The United Nations said a Dutch patrol reported the atrocity. The Israelis said they will protest to Mr Peter de Geus, the Dutch Defence Minister, who arrived today for talks. A meeting was also arranged between the Commander of the United Nations Forces in Lebanon, and General Avigdor Ben-Gurion, the Israeli commander on the northern frontier.

The field commander in the Christmas Eve chase, who was identified only by the pseudonym "Ofir" said today that his men piled up captured explosives, grenades and ammunition and blew them up. The soldiers turned over the bodies, which they removed documents, including two Al Fatah membership cards, but otherwise left the bodies where they fell.

He said he found them in the same position. Although some were decayed, on December 29 when he returned with a unit to remove the bodies to Israel for burial. He dismissed as "rubbish" the United Nations report that his men had piled the bodies, "one on top of the other," and after sprinkling them with liquid applied an explosive charge.

The Dutch position in the area towered nearly 5,000 feet over Wadi Zana, where the encounter occurred. "This is even more remarkable than seeing the Rhodesians talking to their terrorists at the Lancaster House conference," one South African official remarked.

known, decided to give up custody of the girls as a means of getting them back into the school, they had attended.

Mr Lee insists that the custody of children is in his jurisdiction and he intends to take the issue to higher courts. He has the support of most white people here and has quickly become the local hero.

Yesterday a radio station began playing a new recording of a song in his praise. It goes in part: "Judge Lee, he has set the people free. Judge Lee, it's the only way to be. Judge Lee, he just loves the Buckeye three."



## ENGINEER YOURSELF A BRIGHTER FUTURE

The Times Engineering Essay Competition For Students.

The Engineering Careers Information Service and The Times are jointly sponsoring an Engineering Essay Competition, with big cash prizes for the winners.

The object of the competition is to create a greater awareness of the role engineering plays in improving our daily lives.

Students in the United Kingdom, male and female, of all disciplines, engineering and non-engineering, are eligible to enter.

The competition is divided into two sections, one for sixth-formers, and full-time students at colleges of further education, the other for undergraduates at a university or polytechnic.

All students are invited to write, in not more than 750 words, on "What I expect engineers to contribute in the next 30 years to our nation's prosperity".

To have a better chance of winning, entrants may find it helpful to get to know about past engineering achievements before applying their own lively and creative ideas about the future.

There is, of course, no limit on the number of entries that can be received from any sixth-form, university or polytechnic. It will greatly assist the judges if all entries are easy to read.

**THE PRIZES**  
SIXTH FORMS/COLLEGES  
£500 to the winning pupil.  
£500 to the winning pupil's school or college.  
Two runners-up prizes of £200 to pupils only.  
Five consolation prizes of The Times Atlas of the World, comprehensive Edition, and £50.

**UNDERGRADUATES**  
£500 to the winning undergraduate.  
Two runners-up prizes of £250.  
Five consolation prizes of The Times Atlas of the World, comprehensive Edition, and £50.  
All prizes will be presented at a special reception, the details of which will be announced later.

**THE JUDGES**  
Lord Nelson of Stafford, Chairman, General Electric Company; Lord Scanlon, Chairman, Engineering Industry Training Board; Dr Elizabeth Laverick, Deputy Secretary, Institution of Electrical Engineers; Joseph Moon, Director, Engineering Industry Training Board; Hugh Stephenson, Editor, Times Business News; Edward Townsend, Industrial Writer, Times Business News.

## هكذا من الأصل



The tank in Cracow's main square is Russian and so are the uniforms but Poles are inside them. A British-made film biography of the Pope is being made there and this scene depicts the Soviet liberation of 1945.

## Solidarity threatens to strike for Saturdays off

Gdansk, Jan 8.—The Independent Solidarity movement today said there could be strikes if any worker was dismissed for failure to work this Saturday.

The union's latest resolution declared a five-day, 40-hour week in defiance of government policy that only every other Saturday should be free, and is even tougher than the original draft yesterday which left open the possibility of ending the boycott if the Government came up with acceptable alternatives.

Mr Karol Modzelewski, a Solidarity spokesman, accused the Government of attempting

to bring about a confrontation with the unions over the issue. He said the Ministry of Labour had issued instructions for managers to penalize workers who failed to report for work this weekend, the first designated working Saturday of the year.

"People must know that there may be strikes if any workers are sacked for not coming to work on Saturday," he said. The Government said it wanted to cooperate with Solidarity in resolving the issue of free Saturdays, and then proceeded to arbitrarily draft its own law, he added.

"Under the circumstances the Government is no longer

our partner but our opponent", Mr Modzelewski said.

The Solidarity spokesman spoke shortly after the Communist Party daily *Trybuna Ludu* appeared with a warning that there were signs of anarchy in the country. The newspaper attacked regional unions which are demanding the dismissal of unpopular communist officials, saying such actions demonstrated contempt for social norms and the elementary principles of democracy.

Today's meeting of Solidarity's national consultative commission also set up a special council charged with drawing up a programme of union activities and economic reforms.

The council, headed by Mr Andrzej Wielewiewski, an economist, includes scholars, lawyers and agricultural experts as well as Poland's leading dissident Mr Jacek Kuron.

Meanwhile, in the southern town of Ustrzyki Dolne, about 90 farmers and farm workers continued their occupation of a local government building in protest against harassment of union activists.

There was also a sit-in at nearby Rzeszow by workers supporting Ustrzyki Dolne, and also calling for the distribution of assets belonging to the now defunct official unions.—Reuter.

## Minister warns of backlash if West Bank returned

From Christopher Walker  
Jerusalem, Occupied West Bank, Jan 8

Mr Ariel Sharon, the former Israeli general and Minister with Responsibility for Settlements, said today that 200,000 Israelis would take to the streets to demonstrate against any attempt by a future Labour government to hand back part of the occupied West Bank to Jordan.

Mr Sharon, replying to British Conservative politicians he was conducting on a controversial tour of the West Bank, claimed that no Israeli government could survive if it attempted to dismantle the 85 Jewish settlements which have been built, or will be under construction by the time a general election takes place later.

The Israeli minister, speaking here at the first settlement in

be established by the ultra-nationalist Gush Emunim group of which he is an outspoken sympathizer—emphasized that the dismantling of any administrative attempt to remove settlements would be brought about by "democratic procedures".

Mr Sharon said the Government was determined to complete its original settlement programme before the election.

Mr John Lee, Conservative MP for Nelson and Colne, himself a non-practising Jew told *The Times*: "I started this trip with serious doubts about the settlement policy, and today I have confirmed the worst of them. It is obvious that this government is determined to pursue an expansionist settlement policy in which security needs take very much a second place".

Meanwhile, prospective members of Mr Reagan's Cabinet continue to be interviewed by senators on Capitol Hill as part of their confirmation proceedings. Today it was the turn of Mr David Stockman, who has been nominated to the post of Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

So far, about half the members of Mr Reagan's Cabinet have completed their testimony and have praise from senators about their qualifications.

## RULES

1. The last date for entries is Saturday, 28th February, 1981.
2. Entries should be sent to: The Times Engineering Essay Competition, Engineering Careers Information Service, c/o EITB, P.O. Box 176, 54 Clarendon Road, Watford, Herts. WD1 1HS.
3. Entries must state clearly on a separate sheet of paper, to be attached at the top of each entry, which competition—Student or Undergraduate—is being entered. The entrant's full name and address, as well as the name and address of the School, College, University or Polytechnic, must also be given.
4. All entries become the copyright of the organisers of the competition, Times Newspapers Ltd., and the Engineering Careers Information Service, who will reproduce (publish) any entry in whole or in part if they so wish.
5. It is the responsibility of entrants to see that their entries arrive before the closing date.
6. Receipt of entries will not be acknowledged.
7. No correspondence regarding this competition can be entered into.
8. The judges' decision is final.

## THE ENGINEERING CAREERS INFORMATION SERVICE

ECIS was set up in 1976 and provides industry-based information about careers in the engineering manufacturing industry.

It is sponsored by the Engineering Industry Training Board, the Engineering Employers' Federation and the Confederation of Ship-building and Engineering Unions. Representatives of these organisations are members of its Steering Committee. Careers advisers and educationalists are also closely involved.

It produces literature and aids for young people and those who advise them on career choice. It also takes part in national and local exhibitions and conferences.

ECIS co-ordinates its work with other bodies in this field.



THE TIMES



## OVERSEAS

# Wife of Moscow-based diplomat was used to smuggle icons and other relics out of Soviet Union

From Michael Binyon  
Moscow, Jan 8

Just over a year ago when the Soviet frontier guards at Brest boarded a train bound for West Berlin their suspicions were aroused by a woman's large suitcase. In it was a treasure trove of Russian antiques—church crosses and about 20 icons worth more than 91,000 roubles (about £50,000), including one Soviet worth more than 18,000 roubles.

The woman's husband was a diplomat in Moscow and was using her to smuggle out as much of Russia's heritage as he could acquire, confident that his diplomatic status would protect him.

The customs officers had been tipped off by Soviet detectives investigating a ring of icon smugglers who regularly sent antiques to a West Berlin gallery.

The day before she had picked up her goods in Moscow. Detectives watched her park her Mercedes near a taxi garage.

A taxi driver briskly loaded a suitcase into the back of another car whose driver later handed him a 100-rouble tip in a Moscow sauna. The case of icons was given to the wife to take on the train.

Icon smuggling has become big business for organized crime in the Soviet Union. For many years after the 1917 revolution icons could be bought for a few leaves of bread and taken out of the country without trouble.

But in spite of atheistic disapproval of such religious symbols, the Soviet custom became increasingly worried by

the drain of these works of art, many of which were several hundred years old.

Some years ago the regulations were tightened. Icons, Samovars and other pre-revolutionary objects were declared national treasures and to be exported without permission from the Ministry of Culture.

Works of real artistic merit were refused an export licence and could be taken out only on payment of duty equivalent to 100 per cent of the price set by the ministry—irrespective of what the owner paid for it.

These laws have been increasingly flouted, especially by Arab, African and Third World diplomats. In their desire to cultivate good relations with developing countries, the Russians have long turned a blind eye to the black market dealings of many Third World diplomats in Moscow.

For example, they have been particularly harsh towards Westerners caught in currency speculation or smuggling. But although the icons go to the West, including several well known galleries in London, Paris and New York, the channel has usually been the diplomatic bag of a minor embassy.

Customs officers are now opening diplomatic baggage more often—a measure allowed under international convention only if there is a good reason to suspect smuggling.

Several Third World diplomats were expelled for icon smuggling last year. In the past few months the Soviet customs have carried out rigorous inspections of baggage of everyone leaving the country.

and since September even art objects manufactured before 1975 have to be cleared in advance.

It is reliably reported that Soviet detectives and the KGB have begun a campaign to mark all known icons, churches, museums and large private collections with radioactive paint and as diplomatic baggage crosses the Soviet frontier, it is checked with a geiger counter.

As a warning to Russians trading in icons, a Soviet newspaper has published a long account of the trial of those involved in the West Berlin connection. A man called Mikhail Yershov acted as a go-between for the gallery, scouring the countryside and villages, offering peasants a few roubles for their icons or trading Western watches supplied by the gallery.

He learnt about the market from an accomplice who worked in the famous Andrei Rublov icon museum in Moscow. But he had no scruples about saving in half icons that were too large to fit into diplomatic suitcases.

He used a network of petty dealers to keep him supplied with whatever the gallery needed.

Many of the icons were stolen from village churches. When Yershov was caught at the beginning of last year, police traced a masterpiece that had been missing for 40 years. It was stolen before the war and lay hidden in an attic. It was bought in 1975 for 15 roubles, but the reliable St George in Life was recovered by the state.

Beneath the bustling economic activity of Indonesia, there is an undercurrent of political tension largely unknown to the hundreds of thousands of European and American businessmen who are avidly seeking to exploit the current "boom" atmosphere of this oil-rich developing country.

During a visit to Jakarta last summer, Mr David Rockefeller, president of the Chase Manhattan Bank, publicly described Indonesia as one of the most stable countries in the Pacific area, and one which should be a magnet for foreign investors.

To those who follow political events from the inside, however, the situation appears to be one of increasingly high tension, as the country moves towards parliamentary elections this year and presidential elections next year.

The reasons for this tension are several, but high on the list is the blatant corruption of government officials, allegedly including Vice-President Adam Malik and the wife and children of President Suharto, who is expected to stand for a third five-year term.

Corruption exists at all levels throughout the heavily over-staffed and inefficient government, but particularly in those offices and ministries involved in awarding lucrative contracts to foreign suppliers.

Corruption also extends throughout the system of higher education, where admissions to faculties of engineering, medicine and economics—popular fields because of the strong demand for graduates—is often arranged by bribes of up to \$100,000 (£3,500) by parents eager to see their offspring well-placed. An exception is the much respected Technological Institute of Bandung, an engineering and technical university which so far has successfully resisted pressures to admit sons and daughters of high-ranking persons.

But payments of this order are considered small stuff in the present atmosphere in Jakarta, where new cars, including Mercedes costing over £16,000, choke the streets, and where high-rise air-conditioned

buildings overlook squalid shacks and fetid canals which are nothing more than open sewers. One general in an expensive mad race to acquire a French source for the award of an important project.

Another source of tension is the growing power of the right wing of the Partai Persatuan Pembangunan (PPP), or United Development Party, a coalition of Islamic groups. Although more than 95 per cent of Indonesia's population is Muslim, the governments of both former President Sukarno and of President Suharto have resisted demands from traditionalist sectors to establish Islam as the state religion.

Since the rise of militant Islamic fundamentalism in Iran and elsewhere, the Government of Indonesia has attempted to counter-balance such pressures through increased homage paid to the Pancasila, or Five Principles, which form the official state ideology. Every middle and higher-level government official, including university professors, is required to attend a two-week seminar on the meaning of the Five Principles.

"I put it off as long as I could," confided a respected professor of economics. "But now they tell me that I have to go to the next one. Otherwise my career is finished."

The same official reported after the seminar, which lasted eight hours a day, six days a week, that one of the topics discussed was whether the constitution of Indonesia forbade a person from standing for the presidency a third time.



President Suharto, expected to stand for a third five year term.

occurred during the counter-revolution, in 1965 and 1966.

Economic progress since those times has been considerable. Inflation was brought down from more than 600 per cent to about 15 per cent a year. In the 1979-1980 fiscal year, the country enjoyed a balance-of-payments surplus for the first time. A middle class has been emerging as economic activity increases. Expenditure on food has fallen on average from a 1969 record of 77 per cent of household income to 1978 level of 65.5 per cent. Non-food consumer spending has increased. Emphasis on mass education has resulted in an increase in the number of children in primary schools, from 65 per cent in 1973 to 94 per cent in 1980. Rural health clinics are now to be found in many areas previously without health services. Family planning has lowered fertility rates, though overcrowding, especially in the island of Java, remains a big problem.

But economic progress has left most of the rural poor and urban slum-dwellers as badly off as they were 10 years ago. Recent figures on income distribution disclose an apparent decline in real income for the poorest 40 per cent of Indonesia's 135 million

people. This has dismayed many of the dedicated planners, economists and other technocrats who are at the forefront of the development effort.

In part they see this phenomenon as reflecting the difficulty of devising ways of reaching the poor with aid. But they also blame a growing preoccupation on the part of high officials with lining their own pockets, and with leaving the country's future to ill-trained and inexperienced juniors.

Finally, many Indonesian intellectuals and civil servants are disturbed by the apparent reluctance of President Suharto to relinquish power. He'll be President until the year 2000," one well-known artist said. His companion joined in: "He's a good man, really. But he's too useful to those who are making money. They'll never let him go."

Open political discussions are no longer possible, as they were during the early days of the regime. After riots early in 1974, during which the Government's future was in doubt for several days, a press crackdown commenced which has now been extended to films, television, and the foreign press. It is not unusual to find articles in foreign newspapers and magazines thick with blacked-out printer's ink, when the censors have judged that they show the Government in an unfavourable light. Local news tends to be self-censored.

Isolated incidents of violence involving troops seem to indicate that tensions can reach breaking point. When the former rector of the Technological Institute of Bandung appeared unwilling or unable to curb political activity on the campus, his house was shot up one night by a detachment of soldiers. The rector quickly resigned. Recently the Indonesian legal aid society complained of threats and intimidation directed at two of its leading lawyers, and military men have beaten up and severely injured Hadji Fatwa, the Muslim scholar.

A recent order from Mubam-

mad Yusuf, the Minister of Defence, requires all government employees to receive military training. This is coupled with an attempt by special military squads to confiscate illegally-held firearms from civilians. There are said to be several thousand such arms in the hands of the population.

Several months ago 50 of the country's most prominent citizens, including the very popular former Governor of Jakarta, Ali Sadikin, and a hero of the liberation movement, General Nasution, signed a letter to Parliament complaining of alleged abuses of power by the President. The rights of the signers have been curtailed, none may travel overseas or work for the Government, and all are under surveillance.

The strategic importance of Indonesia to the West is undeniable, lying between the Asian land mass and Australia and New Zealand, this country—the fifth largest in the world by population—has been known as a staunch friend of the West since the coming to power of the Suharto Government.

But the tensions present in most developing nations are exacerbated here by the immense gulf between the very rich and very poor. A taxi driver, who must work long hours to earn a few dollars, enjoys no social benefits of any kind, pauses at a traffic light and watches while a cavalcade of limousines roars down a main thoroughfare, sirens screaming.

He turns to his passenger, and uncharacteristically for a Javanese, offers a comment. "That's where the money goes," he says. "But the little people know what! The little people know!"

If the history of other Asian political regimes is an example, the stability of the Suharto Government appears to be much less certain than either Mr David Rockefeller or the foreign business community suspect.

A Special Correspondent

## Anti-semitic acts at study centre

From Ivor Davis  
Los Angeles, Jan 8

Police here are investigating three anti-semitic incidents which have occurred at the famous Simon Wiesenthal Centre of Holocaust Studies in Los Angeles during the past few days.

The latest was on Wednesday when vandals defaced the side of the building with signs in paint that read: "Kill Jews".

Mr Ronald Reagan, the President-elect, Governor Edmund Brown Jr and Mr Tom Bradley, Los Angeles Mayor, said today they were shocked at the vandalism and Mr Reagan described the acts as "an outrage to Americans".

On Tuesday a rabbi was hit in the arm and a stained glass window was broken by two youths armed with air guns.

On Sunday, two young men with heavy boots and wearing Nazi insignia made anti-Jewish remarks to a woman on duty at the centre's museum.

## Marxist group held by Turks

Ankara, Jan 8.—Fifty-one

militants of the Parisian faction of the clandestine Turkish Communist Party, known as the "Marxist group", have been arrested at the end of a two-month operation, the martial law authorities say.

They face charges of killing six people, armed robberies and bombings in Ankara over the past year, according to the military. A farmhouse belonging to a member of the group was destroyed, and a car belonging to a member of the group was destroyed.

According to the transcript, a call from the tower to clear

## Tokyo anxious to gain confidence of Asean

From Peter Hazelhurst  
Tokyo, Jan 8

Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister, making his first overseas visit since he assumed office, arrived in the Philippines today to consolidate Japan's growing ties with the region's most coherent economic alliance, the five member states of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean).

In contrast to his predecessors, who made their overseas debut in Washington, Mr Suzuki is travelling to the Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand to demonstrate his country's solid support for the group of non-communist nations of South-East Asia, officials say.

First, Mr Suzuki will establish how he can help lay down a solid economic foundation for the area—Tokyo's prerequisite for political stability.

Mr Suzuki is also likely to assure the leaders of Asean of continued support for Vietnam's invasion of Kampuchea. At present Japan has frozen its aid to Vietnam and has refused to support a resolution in the United Nations General Assembly calling for supervised free elections in Kampuchea. He will also affirm that his new Administration will refuse to recognize Mr Heng Samrin's regime in Phnom Penh.

Although the United States remains the pivot of Tokyo's foreign policy, it is abundantly clear why Mr Suzuki wants to consolidate ties with the relatively prosperous Asean nations. In the first place, the Straits of Malacca are vital to Japan's oil

supplies and trading ties with the Gulf countries and Europe. At the same time Indonesia and Malaysia are important suppliers of raw materials including oil, rubber, lumber and tin.

Essentially, Mr Suzuki will not present the leaders of Asean with any dramatic plan to provide the region with economic prosperity and political stability. He will however attempt to portray Japan, as the world's second largest industrial power and as a stable and reliable ally in Asia.

Mr Suzuki will inform the leaders of Asean that Tokyo is not prepared to increase defence spending and thereby take a greater responsibility for the security of non-communist Asia, a step advocated by the United States, by Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the Singapore leader, and President Marcos of the Philippines.

In short Mr Suzuki will lay down a somewhat nebulous creed known as the Fukuda Doctrine as his foreign policy approach to South-East Asia.

"There are three pillars to our policy in South-East Asia. First, Japan does not intend to become a military power. Second, we will attempt to establish relations of mutual trust with all nations of South-East Asia. Third, even though we have frozen our aid to Vietnam we will continue to maintain relations with the nations of Indo-China with the hope that we can influence policy to some degree," one of the Prime Minister's advisers says.

The Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia enjoy a trade surplus with Japan while Singapore and Thailand have a trade deficit.

Leading article, page 11

## Gas cooker not to blame for Saudi air disaster

By Arthur Reed  
Air Correspondent

A hydraulic fluid fire which released toxic gas is now suspected to have caused the accident of a Saudi TriStar airliner at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, last August in which all 301 people on board died.

A burning gas cooker carried on board by the group of passengers had previously been suspected.

This is according to Flight International, which in its current issue, says that it has access to the investigation of the cockpit voice recorder carried on the TriStar and exchanges between the crew and the control tower.

The magazine also discounts theories that the departure of an aircraft of the Saudi royal family was a factor in the loss of life.

According to the transcript, a call from the tower to clear

the runway of a vehicle for the royal flight came two minutes after the last call from the TriStar, and four minutes after it had landed back at Riyadh.

Flight International says that a number of safety points arise from the tragedy. There was no passenger briefing by the cabin staff, probably because of passenger panic and the apparent "negative panic" of the commander, or his reluctance to accept the seriousness of the situation.

The flight crew consulted the wrong checklist, and the engine was not started. There was no "Mayday" call.

The doors were not opened from the inside, perhaps because of fighting and the crash against them, as well as the toxic gas. Residual cabin pressure may also have been a factor. The gas is likely to have killed everybody on board before the main fire.

## Nigerians keep diplomatic links with Libya

From Our Correspondent  
Lagos, Jan 8

Nigeria officially made it clear today that it has not broken diplomatic relations with Libya nor expelled the Libyan Embassy.

What has done Professor Ibrahim Abacha, a Foreign Minister explained at a press conference is to request those Libyans who took over the embassy on Monday and transformed it into a "People's Bureau" to leave the country.

He also spoke out against the recently announced merger between Libya and Nigeria's own neighbour, Chad. Such a proposal was "most unfortunate and indeed premature," he said. An official statement said that only "a new and freely elected Government" in Chad could have a mandate to embark on negotiations for any sort of association.

Other passengers, who had paid a lot of money, would have to sit beside him.

It is reprehensible the way they dealt with him," Mrs Luscombe said. Her nephew who had been left behind virtually abandoned at the airport with only a few cents in Australian currency in his pockets. "He was wearing a fawn tanktop, clean jeans and shoes (flip flops), and wasn't abusive in any way," she said. "He had gone through all the normal pre-flight procedures, and was about to board the plane when he was approached by a man who asked him if he had a passport."

When he replied that he had not, he was told that the tanktop was not up to the standard required for an overseas flight and that he could not board.

After the incident, the boy telephoned his parents and sister, who were on the New South Wales central coast and later joined them.

A Qantas spokesman said last night that the airline was extremely sorry and had responded by refunding out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the delay. "We do have minimum dress standards, but problems should be detected at an earlier stage."

## Boy's tanktop costs him seat on airliner

From Douglas Aiton  
Melbourne, Jan 8

A 17-year-old English schoolboy from Northampton was not allowed to board a London-bound Qantas flight from Sydney airport last week because he was wearing a tanktop—a popular but casual coloured singlet-type garment. Peter van der Borg had been on a short visit to Australia with his parents and four brothers, and was returning home after a Saturday for the start of his college year.

Although the airline later reimbursed about \$85 (£44) for expenses incurred and booked him on a flight the following day, he was late for the college opening. His parents, who are still in Australia, and his aunt, Mrs Louise Luscombe, who lives

in Sydney, are angry because of the treatment the boy received, and also because Qantas staff did not tell him.

Mrs Luscombe said last night that the action had left her nephew virtually abandoned at the airport with only a few cents in Australian currency in his pockets. "He was wearing a fawn tanktop, clean jeans and shoes (flip flops), and wasn't abusive in any way," she said. "He had gone through all the normal pre-flight procedures, and was about to board the plane when he was approached by a man who asked him if he had a passport."

When he replied that he had not, he was told that the tanktop was not up to the standard required for an overseas flight and that he could not board.

# Blatant corruption leaves the Indonesian poor poorer

## Student duelling returns to Heidelberg



A gathering of a student fighting fraternity, complete with pillebox hats and frocked jackets and, below, student duellers of the past.

Passers-by in a Heidelberg square one sunny morning could not believe their eyes. There in the heart of the romantic old city were students with embowered pillebox hats, velvet frocked jackets, colourful sashes and thighboots sitting at long wooden tables, inviting them to join them in a beer.

It might have been a scene from *The Student Prince*. But it was real. After being swept out of the universities by the student protest movement of 1968 the *Verbindungen*, the German student fraternities, are creeping back again.

With them come some memories of one of the most romantic, yet controversial, traditions Germany has known: duelling.

Those who went misty-eyed at the music of *The Student Prince* will remember the bright uniforms, the carousing and the pranks of the days when being a student was far more important than actually studying.

War-time films spread the image of the "bad" German, the cruel Nazi or the granite-hard industrialist with deep, sinister scars on his face. The marks, once a status symbol but now sneered at, bore witness to the duels in his student days.

The drinking was legendary even by German standards. Young *Verbindung* members were compelled to down beer after beer in a kind of military drill until they learnt to stay on their feet while blind drunk.

The old boy system, the flags, the rectory tables, the jargon, the customs and the particular brand of all-male companionship had a strong whiff of the English public school. But from the impeccable social manners they cultivated to the crude beer-swilling they loved, they were indelibly German.

The *Verbindungen* all but disappeared when the 1968 student movement set out to rid the universities of the "mould of 1,000 years". Any student



who dared to show himself in a pillebox hat or even with the narrow everyday ribbon across his chest was derided as something from the prehistoric past.

Some had to close completely. The richly-endowed fraternities in university towns were often almost empty. Some abolished duelling, one of their most cherished activities, others took up karate instead.

But in the past year or two groups of students in hats and ribbons have been seen strolling unashamedly in the streets of university towns. Fraternities are delightfully reporting a steady increase in would-be members.

It is not nostalgia, it seems, but life in modern universities that is driving students back to fraternity life. Lonely youths are seeking warmth and comradeship, others a cheap and congenial room which is often hard to get, yet others hope for help from members in the difficult business of getting a job.

In return they have to accept that membership of the fraternity is for life. Even after they leave they have to join in frequent social events, give money and help younger members to find their place in the world.

If they join a *Schlagende Verbindung* (fighting fraternity) they are also obliged to fight with razor-sharp swords at least twice a year. The custom, originally designed to teach a student to defend himself if assaulted for instance, by an officer, has now dwindled to a curious ritual.

Heavily padded and with metal goggles to protect their

stiffly hack at each other, five blows each per round, 30 rounds in a fight. Any sign of cowardice brings shame on the fraternity and another fight as a penalty.

The only real danger is a cut on the face now carefully stitched but in the past widened so the scar was deep and visible.

Members have difficulty explaining why they do it. Few say they enjoy duelling, most dislike it and confess they are scared. They say outsiders cannot understand what it means. It is a sign of belonging, a commitment.

Apart from rare exceptions women are not allowed to join. In fighting fraternities duelling is the reason, others have a variety of explanations which make psychologists suspect the revival is partly a subconscious escape flight from emancipated girl students.

Reluctance to admit women is only one sign of what is fundamentally a conservative institution. It originated 185 years ago as a political movement for German unity and old values—comradeship, life-long fellowship, honour, freedom and the fatherland—dominate their statutes.

The revival is still small. Whereas about two thirds of the student population used to belong to fraternities, at present only about 40,000, or the one million students are members.

And the new generation of *Verbindungsmänner* are tending down the tradition. They claim they do not drink any more than an average student, duelling is kept to a minimum and the once time-consuming social activities have been drastically cut.

With slender means, a limit to the time he can spend at university and the need to compete desperately for a dwindling number of jobs, today's student has to keep his nose in his books. The days of the student prince are over.

Patricia Clough

## Bolivia: A land of repression

Five months after its latest military coup, Bolivia has taken a step towards the restoration of democracy: the streets of La Paz, a mountain city nearly 12,000ft up in the Andes, are full of bustle during the day and most people have returned to work.

But the atmosphere changes at night as the approach of 11 pm sees people hurry to get home before the curfew begins. From then until 6 am the streets are virtually empty except for detachments of armed soldiers, and then La Paz looks like an occupied city.

The reason for the surface calm, in fact, is that the policy of repression has been effective. The leaders of the political parties and the trade unions, many of them seized on the day of the coup, July 17, have gone into exile; and those that remain are in hiding.

Arrest and detentions are no longer taking place on the scale of the first two months after the coup, when there was widespread torture and killing. But people are still taken in for questioning, and the policy of intimidation ensures that most of the population keep their heads down.

There are only about five million Bolivians, living in a country which is large by European standards. Part of it lies in the Andean plateau and part in the tropical lowlands which border Brazil. It is a potentially rich country, with good agricultural land in the lowlands and vast mineral resources.

But over the years it has become known for the frequency of its military coups and for the overall poverty and backwardness of its people of whom more than half are pure Indians.

Members have difficulty explaining why they do it. Few say they enjoy duelling, most dislike it and confess they are scared. They say outsiders cannot understand what it means. It is a sign of belonging, a commitment.

Apart from rare exceptions women are not allowed to join. In fighting fraternities duelling is the reason, others have a variety of explanations which make psychologists suspect the revival is partly a subconscious escape flight from emancipated girl students.

Reluctance to admit women is only one sign of what is fundamentally a conservative institution. It originated 185 years ago as a political movement for German unity and old values—comradeship, life-long fellowship, honour, freedom and the fatherland—dominate their statutes.

The revival is still small. Whereas about two thirds of the student population used to belong to fraternities, at present only about 40,000, or the one million students are members.

And the new generation of *Verbindungsmänner* are tending down the tradition. They claim they do not drink any more than an average student, duelling is kept to a minimum and the once time-consuming social activities have been drastically cut.

With slender means, a limit to the time he can spend at university and the need to compete desperately for a dwindling number of jobs, today's student has to keep his nose in his books. The days of the student prince are over.

in the lowlands, where there are large-scale small runways from which to fly them out of the country. Some go in leaf form, some are processed in Bolivia.

This is a large operation and could not be carried out without the aid of the complicity of the authorities. The belief is that some members of the armed forces are not just conniving at the traffic, but taking an active part themselves.

The United States has still not re-established normal relations with Bolivia since the coup, and has cut off aid—though the Bolivian Government hopes for a change after Mr Ronald Reagan takes office. Britain and other European countries are also taking a hands-off attitude.

There has been pressure from fellow members of the Andean Pact, which includes Venezuela, Colombia, Peru and Ecuador. The extent of the disapproval of Bolivia's northern neighbours was shown when President Luis Garcia Meza was not invited to celebrations in December of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the death of Bolivar in Colombia.

In reaction President Garcia announced that Bolivia would leave the Andean Pact. But the Bolivian government has not so far carried out that threat.

Inside Bolivia, there is opposition to the present regime from "constitutionalist" members of the armed forces, though they have been removed from positions of influence, and an attempt at a counter-coup in November failed.

There has also been criticism of the July coup and its aftermath from the Church, itself regarded as altogether too leftist by many military men and a target for repression.

The regime has proved stronger, however, than many of its opponents had hoped. In its defence, officials maintain that the armed forces moved in to end the disturbances during the period leading up to the elections; and make the remarkable claim that because there is now no open opposition the regime is based on consensus.

The better known political leaders and trade unionists have been released from custody and expelled. But, though the regime denies holding any political prisoners, a number of people are believed to be still held.

The main challenge which the military Government now faces is an economic one. The Bolivian economy has been running down and the country is heavily in debt. The latest instalment of a loan from the International Monetary Fund was not made available because the fund's requirements had not been met.



## THE ARTS

## Retrospective on a vigorous enemy of society

Yilmaz Güney season  
National Film Theatre

## The Stunt Man (X)

Classics Haymarket,  
Oxford St., Chelsea,  
Hendon; Odeon,  
Swiss Cottage

The Turkish cinema—which boasts a prodigious production of apparently awful melodrama for local consumption—labours under the considerable handicap that its best director, biggest star and only artist of international standing has, since 1975, been serving a 12-year jail sentence for killing a judge in a café brawl. Since then, however, Yilmaz Güney has continued to write detailed shooting scripts for films that are realized, in Güney's own manner, by his local associate Zeki Ökten. *The Herd*, a film made under these conditions, won the Grand Prix at the 1979 Locarno Festival and the British Film Institute award in the same year; another, *The Enemy*, won the prize at the London Film Festival last year. Now the National Film Theatre is to present, between next Tuesday and January 30, a ten-film retrospective of Güney's best work.

Born in 1937, Güney worked his way through university as a labourer, and in 1958 was writer-actor on the film *Children of the Earth*. A handsome man, with tough, virile features which manage to blend warmth with rock-like resolution, he quickly became a top star in 40 or more of the cheap action pictures that are the staple of Turkish film production.

When he came to direct his own pictures—the earliest in the NFT season is *Bride of the Earth*, made in 1963—he used the lessons he had learned in telling stories through fast and exciting action. He brought enough new qualities to his films, however, in the way of social criticism, to attract unfavourable attention from the more reactionary quarters of the official Turkish establishment.

Güney's films all in one way or another expose a society of economic inequality and backward social structures, where by tradition women are exploited and suppressed, where there is a constant undefined opposition between proletariat and authority, where such destructive cultural legacies as blood feuds still hold sway.

It is characteristic of the dark social vision of Güney's films that his heroes often prefer apparently desperate alternatives to the wretched role allotted to them in organized society. Thus the leading characters in *The Father* (1971) and *The Poor Ones* (1974-75) both choose a life of preference to starvation conditions in the outside world. In *Anxiety* (1974) a poor cotton worker sells his daughter to get a little money. In *The Enemy* (1980) the hero accepts a humiliating job poisoning stray dogs whose lot seems in fact much the same as his own.

The hero-group of *Elegy* (1971), which was shown to the press this week, are smugglers and outlaws who look like close cousins to the last bandits of Bunuel's *L'Age d'Or*. They have abandoned the place and killed or driven off its inhabitants.

Güney himself plays the leader of this band of instinctive revolutionaries, who are eventually annihilated by legal society—though not before they have established more and more political links with a woman doctor of the locality. This woman, as Hans Stempel and Martin Ripken's documentary, *Portrait of Yilmaz Güney*, points out, is the only female in the NFT season of films to achieve a degree of independence and emancipation.

This documentary, which is also in the season, includes a long interview with Güney in his island prison. Apparently resigned, and industriously writing and even making films about the didactic potential of the cinema in bringing about



political education of the Turkish masses. *Freebie* and *The Bean* was a messy comedy-thriller with Alan Arkin and James Caan as cheerfully corruptible cops. Since then not much has been heard of Güney until *The Stunt Man*.

As early as 1971 it was announced that he was making a film of that title; and presumably it was the same project,

since Paul Brodew's novel, on which it is based, had come out the previous year. In fact, however, the film was not completed until seven years later; and even then it lingered on the shelf for a couple of years before the distributors decided what to do with such an oddity. It was eventually released, to extravagant reviews from the smart set of

the film world, who started off in the character as if it were an extension of his one-time film personification of Charles Manson, but then gives a lot of interest to the boy's groping incomprehension and spasmodic anger. The girl is Barbara Hershey, who at one time changed her name to Segall and has always had difficulties in giving firm definition to the characters she plays. A score of credited stunt men live things up with an intermittent circus.

David Robinson

● *Sitting Ducks*, which opened at the ICA yesterday, is also running at the Paris Pullman for an indefinite season.

## Literary flair makes absorbing ballet

Copenhagen

It is more than four years since the Royal Danish Ballet visited New York, and even longer since it was last in London. Admittedly in 1980, the company staged a Bournonville festival in Chicago and large numbers of British and American enthusiasts and critics attended the Copenhagen festival for Bournonville towards the end of 1979.

As a result, to judge from recent Anglo-American press reports, the Royal Danes would appear to be dancing the works of their nineteenth-century master, August Bournonville, and absolutely nothing else. Untrue. At present there is no Bournonville in the immediate current repertoire, which is dominated by *Skaersommerdrom* and Erik Bruhn's new staging of *Giselle*.

*En Skaersommerdrom* is a full-evening ballet by the American choreographer John Neumeier, which saw its premiere by the Hamburg Ballet in 1977 when it was called *Ein Sommernachts Traum*. Most Shakespearean scholars would know it better as *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. At his best Neumeier lacks for nothing in choreographic invention, but whether at his best or his worst his ballets often have a strange literary cast to them.

Sometimes it even seems that he regards ballet as a means of making annotations and comments to music and literature. When this strangely eclectic method comes off, it can be a dramatic experience; when it does not it appears oddly flat and pretentious.

In *Midsummer Night's Dream* it comes off with the flair of fireworks curcating in a midnight sky. It is intellectually absorbing, musically

biacore but fascinating, while the choreography has a sweep and confidence that would amaze all but the most rigid of Neumeier's many American detractors. It sets the ballet in a world of rutilant romance, except for the supernatural who wear self-space underwear. The music is a mixture of Mendelssohn, for the lovers, electronic music by György Ligeti for the fairies and traditional organ-grinder music for the clowns.

It is also the sexiest version of the story I have ever seen, with, as example, a slithering sensual duet for Titania and the caustic-griffed Bottom, while even the relationship between Oberon and Puck seems uncommonly warm. Incidentally, Neumeier follows the precedent of Peter Brook's staging of the play by combining the roles of Oberon and Theseus, Hippolyta and Titania, and Puck and Philostrate. Despite the fact that the passions and mad jealousies found in this fairy kingdom, both the clowns and the lovers, in their disparate ways, are truly funny, and the device of a mechanical organ played on stage for the "mechanicals" is theatrical genius.

In sum, says the Danes perform the ballet better than did the original cast: it is a company uncommonly strong in mimes and character dancers. Johnny Eliassen, the beautiful Landa Homberg and, in his best role to date, Frank Andersen, were spirited and spiritual as Oberon, Titania and Puck. Tøben Jeppesen made an eccentrically dominating figure as Bottom, and with Neumeier's introduction of clowns and Fredbjørn Bjørnsen among the clowns, who could go wrong?

In contrast, Bruhn's new *Giselle* is understandably and properly conventional. It has very romantic settings by Desmond Heeley, uses the John Lanchbery adaptation of the Adam music and makes the peasant *pas de deux* into a *pas de quatre*. Two original touches are the introduction of old people into the first act to keep Giselle's mother company, and having Bathilde and Myrtha played by the same dancer.

The ballet was decently danced, with Arne Villumsen as a fairly dashing Albrecht, and a young corps de ballet girl, Ann Kristen Ruge, sweetly wraithlike as Giselle. And what a pleasure to see the commanding presence of the company's first ballerina, Krossm, in the role of the Prince of Covland. Ideally generals should always lead their armies from the front.

Clive Barnes

## Cold Chips

Thames

## Michael Church

The pleasures to be had from watching television are many and various, but one which currently seems in short supply is that of watching a big commercial company take creative risk. There is of course plenty of safe gambling on exportable films straddled with starry names, and one can still stumble upon the occasional inspired one-off like Granada's *All-American Night Show*, but it is rare for a risk to be built into the structure.

Take Six is the name of an interesting and imaginative risk taken by Thames and masterminded by the producer Udi Eichler: a documentary series offering directorial debuts to a handful of folk who might not otherwise have got the chance. Eichler has apparently defined his role as helping people do their thing, talking problems through with them but refusing to become a prime mover.

*Cold Chips*, which was last night's inaugural contribution, represented two debuts: a directorial one for Laurens Postma, who recently graduated from the London International Film School, and one for Tim Thomas as a television entertainer.

Purportedly a didactic piece of light entertainment about the much-misunderstood technological future, this show did not really work, but the fault lay less in

the material than in its treatment. Thomas, whose new one-man show opens at the Young Vic tonight, incidentally, is a refreshing mix of funny and original performer, but he needs to be surrounded by a still space in which to weave his spell. This collaboration all but drowned in sub-Kenny Everett gimmickry and it exploited Thomas's protean gifts in a way that was often too strained and too hysterical to hold the attention. A few well-aimed prods from a producer—sharpen this, cut that, clear away the clutter—would, alas, have done wonders. The next two programmes in the series, of which I have seen previews, are both unusual. *Act of God*, directed by Peter Greenaway, is a compilation of interviews with people who have been struck by lightning. Those who do not like it will dismiss it as being unsequenced; those who do will appreciate its stylish weirdness.

*King's Head*, directed by the film editor Jeremy McCracken, is a deft portrait of London's most famous pub and the ramshackle risk-taking nature of the enterprise underlying it. One of the most striking things about this splendid establishment is the fierce loyalty of those who regularly work, eat, drink or perform there. McCracken's film explains why this should be.

Afterwards come programmes on junior ballroom dancing, bawdy hen parties, tabloid images of the female body, and on life in a children's ward in Great Ormond Street. Worth keeping tabs on.

## Rien ne va plus

Tricycle

## Irving Wardle

Interested readers of this week's *Sunday Times* feature on "The Godfather of the Riviera" may pursue the story to 269 Kilburn High Road, where the gangland massacres linked with the name of Tony "Mr X" Zampa take an even gristlier turn: namely an attempted takeover of the Palais Casino, Nice, which has reduced that erstwhile haunt of the British upper crust to a desolate shell picked over for the past two years by militant croupiers.

I owe that information more to the programme note than to Pin Simmonds's text and production, which announces that its characters bear no resemblance to any persons living or dead, while also claiming that "the words are in almost every case those spoken by the actual people involved".

Nobody has decided whether the show is to be a fable or a documentary; so we start off with a picture of the fatuous

British lordling it along the Promenade des Anglais in the 1920s before being fleeced at the gaming tables; and then more uses of data with the gashan craft chorusing the "Marseillaise" and hurling defiance at the hoodlums' efforts to "destroy our reputation for honest trading".

Narrative logic never was Mr Simmonds's strongest point, but in every other respect I found this "show" an unexpected delight. Played against a silver doorway framed with ported palms, the whole thing works by bold colour contrasts. It is, for instance, a great moment when the four white-trousered British exit to kill themselves like gentlemen (revolvers respectfully served on a silver plate), and instantly return as black-suited mafiosi. Likewise the transformation of Sheila Burnett from a grey-uniformed page into a scarlet-garbed emblem of the new regime.

The company of six excel in quick-change caricature, whether as toothy British pleasure-seekers or as the "boys from Organzola" whose menace is much heightened by their butterball grins and courteous manners.

HENRY JAGLOM'S  
**Sitting Ducks**  
A FILM ABOUT SEX, MONEY AND VITAMINS  
"A brilliantly quirky comedy of modern manners"  
Derek Malcolm, Guardian  
OPENING THE NEW ICA  
ALSO AT Paris Pullman

## Book review

The Bedside Guardian  
Edited by W. L. Webb  
(Collins, £5.95)The Sunday Times  
Bedside Book  
Edited by George Darby  
(André Deutsch, £6.50)

Anthologizing newspapers and putting the results between hard covers every year is about as painless a form of publishing as it is possible to imagine. This is the 22nd such effort from *The Guardian*, and the second from *The Sunday Times* and experience does show. *The Guardian* has a charmingly chatty introduction by Shirley Williams and actually bothers to identify each piece with a date. When the article is a book review one is told the title and author and there is an index at the back with the contributors listed in alphabetical order. There's none of this in *The Sunday Times* offering, just a contents list, and a line under the title which says "The best of contemporary writing from one of the world's great newspapers".

*The Guardian* anthology, in other words, can make a legitimate claim to being what one might describe as a book. *The Sunday Times* one looks as if a pile of old cuttings was sent off to André Deutsch in a taxi one day, printed up and returned with a blurb which is so fulsome that even for a blurb it takes the biscuit: "shrewdest... best informed... liveliest... quite simply the best... undoubtedly Britain's best newspaper". *The Guardian* indulges in such superlatives. Indeed Mrs. Williams remarks only "The *Bedside Guardian*'s a better bedtime than many you may meet. As for *The Guardian* itself, querulous, and all, it does get you through the week". Some of *The Sunday Times* articles come from the colour magazine but there are no colour photographs. Indeed neither book has cartoons, just a few pocket cartoons. All the emphasis is on the writing. *The Guardian* opens with Simon Hoggart on Denis Thatcher. *The Sunday Times* with Russell Miller on Henry. *The Sunday Times* team includes long serving regulars such as Lewis Chester, Geoffrey Smith, Derek Jewell, and Frank Giles as well as identifying *Sunday Times* people whose reputation relies as much on books (Jilly Cooper) or TV (Michael Parkinson), as

their journalism. They also have Roy Fuller, Tina Brown, now editor of *The Tatler*, Anthony Holden now with *The Observer*, and Angela Carter, whom I had always thought of as the very model of a *Guardian* person, though she is not in the *Guardian* anthology so I am obviously mistaken.

*The Guardian* feels a little less like an all-star invitation list and more like a team of John Arlott, James Cameron, Alex Hamilton, Nancy Banks-Smith, Simon Hoggart, and Jill Tweedie are among the regulars and (relative) outsiders—Bernard Crick and E. P. Thompson take regular appearances and have had, in a sense, to invent their own language for the purpose.

Matumbi, a young London band who have worked together since 1971, are still learning the lessons. As early as 1971 it was announced that he was making a film of that title; and presumably it was the same project,

At the moment, Matumbi have no such obvious qualities. Their assets include Dennis Bovell, the composer and guitarist who is perhaps the most imaginative young record producer in Britain (his work with Linton Kwesi Johnson, The Pop Group and Janet Kay has been consistently stimulating), some mildly attractive songs, a solid command of the idiom and a corporate good nature.

On the other hand, too many of their songs deal with well-worn subjects (Zimbabwe, the "sun" law) in a manner which suggests they have nothing new to contribute to the discussion, and their performance on Wednesday night was, for the most part, unduly diffident in the face of a muted but approving audience. Reggae as a whole is not noted for its love of contrast, but they might have made more emphatic use of their flugelhornist and trombonist, while Webster Johnson, who plays keyboards, did enough to suggest that he might profitably be given more scope.

The singing of Bevin Fagan and Glaister Venn was pleasant, with Fagan's urgent tenor the more impressive, and there was a diverting appearance during the encores by Roy Reid, the talkover disc jockey better known as I. Roy, but Matumbi need to learn how to pace a set, how to inject contrast, and how to be more assertive of their individuality.

Tim Heald

## Matumbi

The Venue

## Richard Williams

Reggae music has made enormous strides over the past decade, but its advance has been slowed by the difficulty with which it has adapted itself to live performance. It must be remembered that reggae has always been bred primarily in the recording studio, and while this has little effect on Jamaican musicians, who are rarely called upon to perform before an audience, British reggae artists are expected to make regular appearances and have had, in a sense, to invent their own language for the purpose.

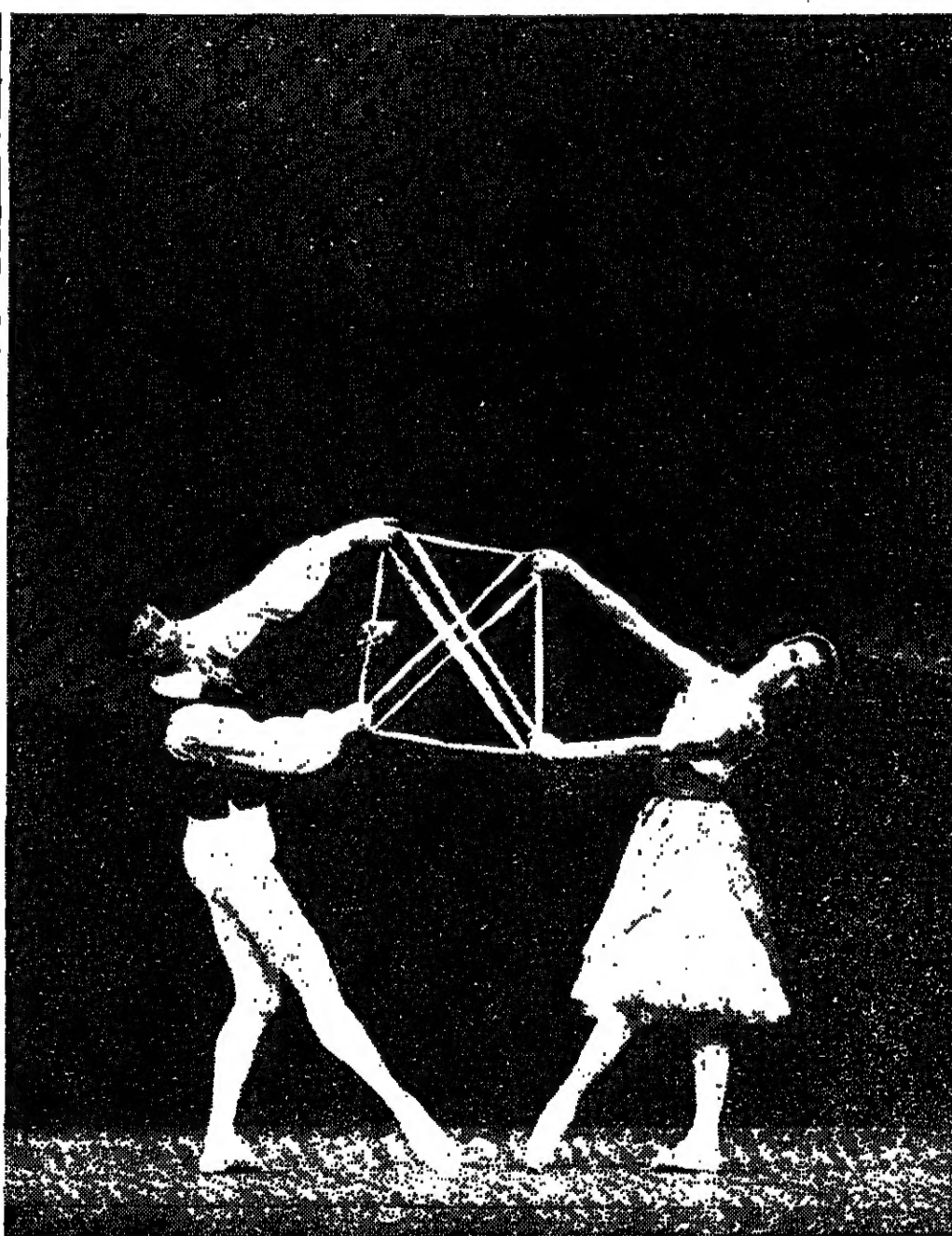
At the moment, Matumbi have no such obvious qualities. Their assets include Dennis Bovell, the composer and guitarist who is perhaps the most imaginative young record producer in Britain (his work with Linton Kwesi Johnson, The Pop Group and Janet Kay has been consistently stimulating), some mildly attractive songs, a solid command of the idiom and a corporate good nature.

On the other hand, too many of their songs deal with well-worn subjects (Zimbabwe, the "sun" law) in a manner which suggests they have nothing new to contribute to the discussion, and their performance on Wednesday night was, for the most part, unduly diffident in the face of a muted but approving audience. Reggae as a whole is not noted for its love of contrast, but they might have made more emphatic use of their flugelhornist and trombonist, while Webster Johnson, who plays keyboards, did enough to suggest that he might profitably be given more scope.

The singing of Bevin Fagan and Glaister Venn was pleasant, with Fagan's urgent tenor the more impressive, and there was a diverting appearance during the encores by Roy Reid, the talkover disc jockey better known as I. Roy, but Matumbi need to learn how to pace a set, how to inject contrast, and how to be more assertive of their individuality.

The Royal Opera's *Hoffmann*, recorded last week, is a new, somewhat disputable production with an all-star cast. The Royal Ballet's *Fille* is an old favourite in a familiar production with a standard repertory cast. Somebody really should have told the cameramen that dinner jackets were not necessary this time.

There is a lot to be said for recording the Royal Ballet as



Lesley Collier and Michael Coleman

La Fille mal gardée  
Covent Garden

## John Percival

Wednesday's performance of *La Fille mal gardée* was recorded by BBC cameras for transmission at a later date, not yet set, and for inclusion in the prospective publications of Covent Garden Video Ltd. So the first two works in the video series have come from opposite ends of the range of choices.

The Royal Opera's *Hoffmann*, recorded last week, is a new, somewhat disputable production with an all-star cast. The Royal Ballet's *Fille* is an old favourite in a familiar production with a standard repertory cast. Somebody really should have told the cameramen that dinner jackets were not necessary this time.

There is a lot to be said for recording the Royal Ballet as

it is, without any special frills, and Lesley Collier was the obvious choice from among the present leading dancers to play Lise. She dances the part sweetly and with dash; not so much depth or variety as some we remember, but very acceptable.

Unfortunately the obvious choice is on the sick list. Michael Coleman filled in with his usual sturdy professionalism, but this was never one of his best roles and, now that he has added a stronger personality, there are some dodgy moments in the technique. He even danced a changed ending of the big solo; a pity not to have the definitive version going down to history.

But altogether this is hardly a definitive *Fille*. The corps de ballet is in splendid form, and anyone who reruns the video 10 years from now is likely to spot some fashions around the edge of the stage of dancers who by then have become stars. The solo performances are less stellar; in fact Leslie Edwards's

jovial portrait of old Thomas, a part he created, is the only one that has not been much better done by former casts.

There seemed, incidentally, to be much more of a round, but perhaps the cameras need that and it will look better on the small screen.

## Pavarotti misses

'Ballo' opening

The management of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, have announced that Luciano Pavarotti will be unable to sing the opening performance of Verdi's *Un ballo in maschera* on January 15 for personal family reasons of illness.

Mr Pavarotti is, however, expected to sing *Gustav* at the remaining performances on January 19, 22, 26 and 30 and on February 3, 6 and 11.

A further announcement concerning the change of cast for January 15 will be made as soon as possible, the opera house said.

## Full house

All 10 concerts the first part of the Philharmonia Orchestra's 1980-81 season at the Royal Festival Hall were sold out. With the general situation reflecting no improvement on audience figures during the first part of the current season, the Philharmonia attributes its record-breaking subscription scheme which it was the first London orchestra to adopt.

## Contemporary Music Network

Groups appearing on the Contemporary Music Network in the spring will include the Delphonic Ensemble of Japan, directed by the Japanese composer Joji Yuasa. Performing in traditional dress, the musicians will present both traditional and modern works.

Other ensembles on the touring circuit will be the Sam Rivers Trio, playing impro-

vised free jazz, the Schutz Choir of London, giving the first performances of Nigel Osborne's *Gnostic Passion*, and Electric Phoenix, offering extended vocal techniques and electronics. There will be more jazz from the Don Rendell Nine, including Rendell's *Earth Music*, vocal acrobatics from the Trio Evvoco of Stuttgart and works by Koussens, Birtwistle, Stravinsky and Mozart in a programme by the London Sinfonietta.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions

Peter Strafford



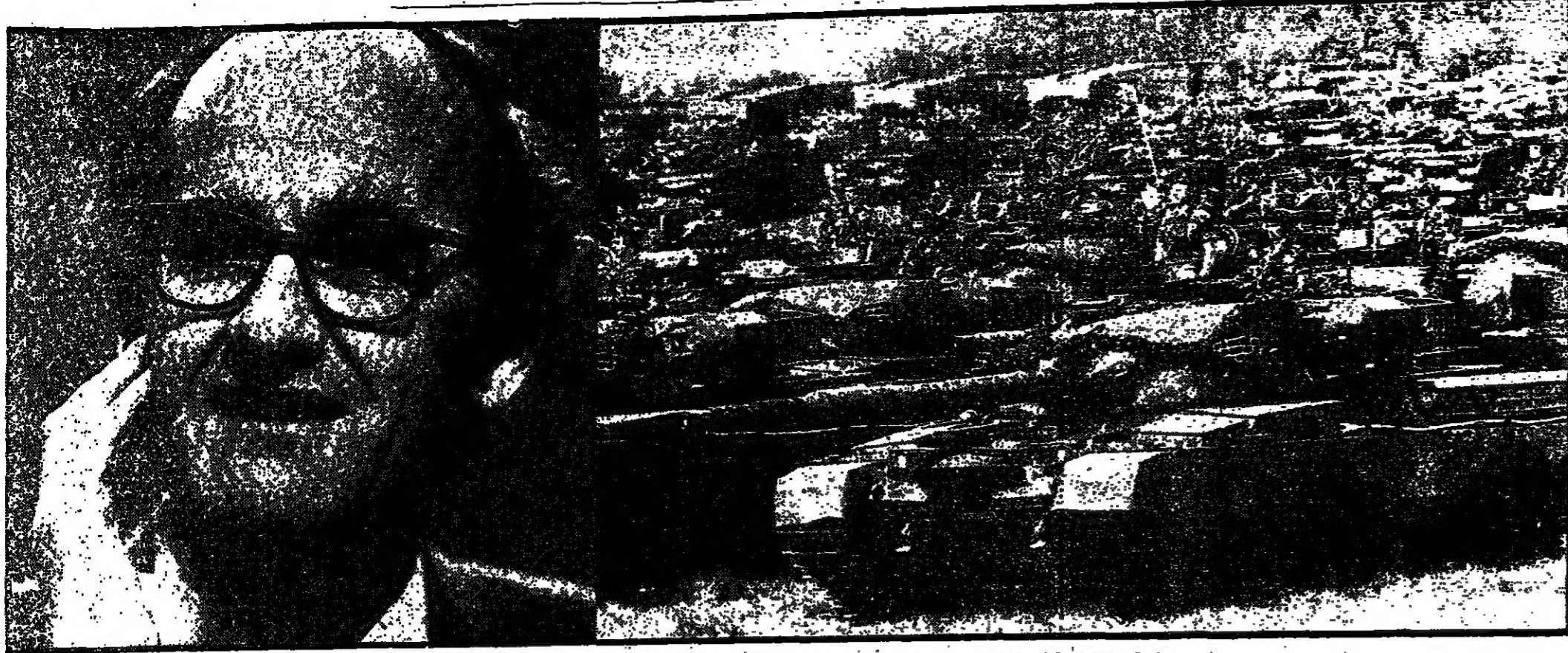








## Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent, assesses the challenge-facing the man who must cut millions from the defence budget



Mr John Nott and BAOR forces in West Germany whose future is the subject of speculation.

# A testing baptism of fire for Mr Nott

Mr John Nott who enters his new office as Secretary of State for Defence for the first time on Monday, will be doing so at a difficult time. True, times are always difficult for a fresh face in Horse Guards Avenue, with the Armed Forces, the Civil Service, the defence industries and a daze of technical detail to master. But Mr Nott's baptism will be more fiery than most.

During the next few weeks he will have to preside over a programme of economies whose purpose is to take several hundred million pounds out of next year's Defence Estimates. The figure includes the £200m cut demanded by the Cabinet last November and (probably) the amount by which the ministry will exceed its cash limits in 1980-81. A total figure of £600m has been adopted by the media but the ministry insists this is only a guess.

The operation will be painful but not as drastic as some recent speculation has suggested. A number of weapons and communications systems now under development will be cancelled or postponed, recruiting and training will be pruned, fuel economies will be maintained and the usual package of building and welfare schemes will be cut more heavily than in the "pendling" year. To this extent it will be another instalment in the stop-go saga which has made a succession of defence secretaries feel more like candidates on

an assault course than shapers of policy.

The Government will not announce the dismemberment of the British Army of the Rhine (BAOR)—which recently made page one of the *New York Times*—alongside a story headlined: "My 1,000 Sexy Nights..."—if only because this would not save enough money in a short enough time. On the other hand there is a growing consensus that more fundamental surgery will be necessary in the medium or long-term if our defence policy is to have any coherence. The growing debate has been reflected in the letters columns of this newspaper.

Speculation over the future of BAOR was fostered, intentionally or otherwise, by the outgoing Defence Secretary Mr Pym, who was inclined to think along the subject without actually clarifying what he had in mind. Last year's Defence White Paper made no secret of Government concern over the "disturbing" rise in foreign exchange costs of stationing troops on the continent—nearly £750m in 1979-80. And the final offset costs agreement with West Germany expired last March.

Ironically the strength of Britain's Armed Forces is also their weakness. They are almost too well balanced. They keep a full corps and four RAF bases in West Germany; maintain the largest navy in Western Europe; assume responsibility for a huge air

**'The trouble is that Britain distributes its resources so widely that at all times and in all directions there are grounds for criticism. The eggs are in too many baskets.'**

defence region around the United Kingdom; operate a strategic nuclear deterrent; and still have to find troops for faraway places like Gibraltar, Hong Kong, Cyprus, Belize and some far-away Northern Ireland.

As professionals they expect to be well-paid, well-trained, well-equipped—and to take their families with them when stationed away from home. They need schools, hospitals, doctors, dentists, lawyers. Successive governments have been criticized for not spending enough on the Royal Navy, the Army or the RAF, for not contributing enough to one NATO theatre or another. The trouble is that Britain distributes its resources so widely that at all times and in all directions, there are grounds for criticism. The eggs are in too many baskets.

The public debate has been over whether the time has come for the Government to concentrate its resources upon either a continental strategy—strengthening British Forces Germany at the expense of the Royal Navy in the Eastern Atlantic, or upon a maritime

strategy, which would effectively mean doing exactly the opposite. But such judgments are easily made by academics who do their sums on paper, while ministers who actually have to deal with troops on the ground or ships at sea, understandably find them more difficult.

A land war in Western Europe of the kind which BAOR has been trained to fight, now seems unlikely. So should not BAOR be reduced at least—along with RAF Germany? If one does this, however, one has to decide what to do with the soldiers who are withdrawn. If you keep them in Britain, ready to fly over to Germany in a crisis, you have to build or refurbish barracks for them to live in, provide them with two sets of equipment, find new places for them to train, and prevent them from growing bored.

You also have to ensure that you can fly them back to the continent in a hurry—perhaps at a time when roads, railways and airfields are jammed. On the other hand, if you discharge them from the Army you would not be able to fly them

back at all, and would add to the queues for civilian jobs—in the short term anyway. Those who argue that the navy's commitment to the Eastern Atlantic could be reduced, point out that if there were another war it would probably be short and sharp—and would be over before the Royal Navy could play much part in it. On the other hand again, the Royal Navy represents a very special British contribution to NATO and a decision to run it down could not easily be reversed. There is simply too much investment in the navy's anti-submarine warfare (ASW) role for any Government to view this option with equanimity. The loss of two RAF squadrons which are dedicated to NATO in an anti-shipping role looks very likely, especially as the future of the Sea Eagle missile, which has been developed partly for them, now looks doubtful.

Ideally we need another Defence Review in Britain but a NATO Review masterminded from Brussels. Mr Pym has already proposed one, and ministers will discuss it at the next meeting of the Defence Planning Committee in May. Unfortunately the European allies do not move except under pressure—and they are already under pressure from the United States. They will not have much sympathy for an impoverished Britain, especially as they think our impoverishment is largely our own fault.

The deployment pattern of

NATO forces has remained virtually unchanged for 30 years and the alliance, like Britain, has been hit by one political crisis after another. Mr Nott should pursue Mr Pym's lead if only in the hope that the alliance can work out a more equitable arrangement for sharing the costs of stationing troops overseas.

If Britain has to drop one of its larger NATO commitments, most of the allies would not doubt prefer that the Government should abandon its plans to retain a strategic deterrent—or at least should select a cheaper alternative than the Trident missile. The Ministry of Defence has already started to spend money on ordering long-lead items for the Trident system and the role of British submarines to carry it. But cancellation would be relatively simple before the mid-1980s when the bulk of the £5,000m costs starts to fall due. If a Labour government were returned to power in 1984, cancellation of the Trident programme would be quite likely anyway.

Mrs Thatcher and her Cabinet have committed themselves so firmly to Trident that they must regard cancellation with a shudder. But the Government is already twisting and turning over its pre-election pledges on defence. Unless the economy improves more markedly than now seems likely, the Government might find this one of the more digestible options open to it.

Geoffrey Smith

## Confidence will plug the leaks

"I hope it will happen less and less," said Mrs Thatcher on television this week, speaking of her Government's tendency to leak. So she should. This Government has been more prone to leak and more divided than any Conservative administration since the days of the late Mr Heath. Why? This certainly cannot be attributed to the presence of Mr St John Stevas in its ranks, so what grounds are there for believing that everything will be different in the future?

The cohesion of a government is determined partly by the influence of the prime minister, partly by the extent of the policy differences among its members, and partly by whether it feels itself to be successful. It is when things are going badly that some ministers are most inclined to dissociate themselves surreptitiously from the rest.

A prime minister can exercise a unifying influence either through exceptional skill as a chairman—in the style of an Aristotle or a Macmillan—or through massive personal authority. Mr Heath, for example, imposed his will on the last Conservative Government in a way that stifled dissent.

Mrs Thatcher does not come into either category. It is not her judgement, but her quiet, guiding influence, which is the moment comes to summarize the conclusions. Her preference is to lead from the front, with a certain relish for a good argument. She tends to state her view and in effect to challenge others to disagree. This leads to a style of government that is more stimulating for ministers, with a more open debate among them. But it also leads to a fractious life. She has a stormy relationship with some of her most successful ministers. Lord Carrington is a case in point.

It is true that she has been reverting more to a chairman's role in Cabinet, but it is hard to believe that it is in her nature to develop into a Tory Aztec. Neither does she hold the Cabinet together by her personal authority. She is indeed a formidable person and her authority was naturally enhanced by such a large election victory. But she is leading a Cabinet with many more experienced members, a number of whom do not share her basic attitudes. There may also be an element of male chauvinism.

Her authority may to some extent be increased by her dismissal of Mr St John Stevas. She has shown that she is prepared to chop off the head of a minister who gives offence. This may impress the party and may for a time have a cautionary effect upon other ministers. But the operation has been botched. Mrs Thatcher has been forced into the uncomfortable position for any politician of having to protest that her words did not mean what they were thought to have meant. An executioner ought not to have to apologize.

The increase in respect that accrues to a good butcher in politics is likely to be limited in this instance. It will not be negligible, but it will not be enough to keep the Cabinet in line if there are further major differences in policy. Nothing that has been done will remove the propensity to disagree. The question is whether there will be such occasions for disagreement as to sweep aside the pressures for public unity. This is very far from being a government with a death wish. Its differences will be made manifest only when it cannot come together on issues of consequence.

There has been no shortage of these during the Government's life so far. Apart from the undercurrent of doubt over the economic strategy, there have in particular been the disputes over public expenditure moves as to whether to start the black market for a great deal of money? "Oh yes, I know," he replied coolly. "You must come from Russia." I had forgotten that I had told him exactly the same thing a year earlier.

Off the broomstick rink it is more difficult to show off your status in Russia. Of course a usual curious feature, especially if it is one totally unshared by Moscow's roads and climate—a flashy American sports mode, for example, which can be guaranteed not to start in the cold mornings and needs expensive spares from halfway around the world. One well-known conductor at the Bolshoi has such a car—quite white—and has thus achieved the ultimate in status symbols. But nowadays it is not as rare as it was to see a Mercedes with Soviet number plates. I once even saw a new bright yellow Morgan cruising down the streets of Yerevan, the capital of Armenia.

of us think it ought to have gone further."

A Green Paper on further reform in this field is to be published next week. It is almost impossible to propose anything in this area without attracting flak from somewhere in the Tory party, but the principal argument is likely to be whether to legislate again in this Parliament or to promise in the manifesto to do so in the next. With luck, that should postpone and restrict dispute to manageable proportions.

After the trauma of the last public expenditure cuts there is no disposition on either wing of the Cabinet to embark on another exercise of the same sort. There will always be arguments as to how public expenditure should be kept under control, but that is not so difficult as seeking severe cuts. The most contentious field of public spending in the near future is likely to be on defence. If Mrs Thatcher has appointed Mr Nott as Secretary of State in the hope of bringing the department back within its cash limits there will be some tension. The resistance of the Chiefs of Staff will be particularly formidable because they will have the ready aid of Conservative backbenchers who were already becoming restive over the Government's intentions before Christmas. There could be trouble here.



**Mrs Thatcher... tends to state her view and in effect to challenge others to disagree. This leads to a style of government that is more stimulating for ministers... but also leads to a fractious life**

But the most probable flash-point is over economic strategy. In the immediate future there will be the questions of the public sector borrowing requirement and the Budget. These are not usually the subject of dispute within the Cabinet because it is the custom for members simply to be informed of the Budget proposals at the last minute. This time there will be attempts to secure a voice for the Cabinet collectively in determining the Budget strategy.

If these attempts are successful it will be a sign that the Prime Minister is far from dominating the Cabinet, because this would be a change not just of procedure but of power.

The critical point, though, will come some time before the end of the year if there are not indications that the overall economic strategy is succeeding—and is likely to be, successful in time for the next election. Ministers will know that success will have to be evident during 1982 if they are to stand a reasonable chance at the next election.

One there are signs that the economic strategy is working this will become a more confident government and confident governments do not leak. But if there are not better grounds for hope within a year then the leaks and indirect disclaimers will multiply, no matter how many ministers Mrs Thatcher may care, and dare, to sack.

## Professor F A Hayek on why the poor nations remain poor

# The flaws in the Brandt report

developed an effective market economy; and there are countries which have become increasingly socialist and have during this period suffered a relative or absolute decline in their standard of living and their prospects. This is the "increasing gap," carried by the policies pursued by these countries and by nobody else. We need compare merely West and East Germany, which 30 years ago started equally poor.

The extraordinary feature of the present positions is that the governments who bear the responsibility claim that the socialist principles which have ruined the economies of these countries should be applied internationally to enable them to continue. I am not questioning that, in the general interest, larger amounts of capital should flow from the wealthy to the poorer countries. That is how in the past economic progress spread. What I am questioning is whether this capital should go to the governments of these countries to enable them to continue with their socialist experiments, or whether it should be provided to the people in the form of welfare rather than benefit the people of those countries. The western world seems to

have been led to its present policies by a silly kind of competition with Russia for the sympathy of these countries. But it is not from the goodwill of the intellectual elites whose misguided doctrines now govern so much of the third world, but from the growing welfare of the masses that we must hope in the long run to derive their friendship. Since the majority of the people of the Western world rightly believe that they owe their wealth to the market economy which they maintain, it would only be reasonable if they continued their assistance to the countries in which they could expect that the people at large would benefit from the investment of capital. Let the Russians assist those

governments which wish to organize their economies on the Russian model and let the "capitalist" countries, if they really believe that what they do will really benefit the people at large.

It is deeply to be regretted that a former Conservative British Prime Minister has joined the former socialist Prime Ministers of Germany, Sweden and elsewhere in the notorious North-South report to support the traditional fallacy that poverty can be cured by a massive transfer of wealth. This is not the place in which the basic error of this can be conclusively refuted. I can here only implore all readers who have been moved by the

specious plausibility of the Brandt Report to study the full analyses which British experts in the field have produced in the past few months published in various journals, such as Professor P. D. Henderson in *The World Economy* (June), Professors P. T. Bauer and B. S. Yamey in *Commentary* (September), and several others in the current issue of *Economist*.

They do not argue that help should be given to the third world but merely that the methods now practised or recommended in the Brandt Report are not only ineffective but would in several ways produce effects opposite to those desired. Personally, I still believe that the alternative I suggested 27 years ago with respect to American help to Europe would equally apply to all Western help to the third world. There seems to me, I then argued, "a strong case for a division of functions between American business and government."

"Let American government, while withdrawing entirely from direct lending at the same time assume the function of guarantor against political risks, of private loans to private

foreign borrowers, and especially against the risk of the non-transferability of the proceeds of such investments. The economic risk of the particular investment—the borrower paying interest, or dividends, and repaying the capital in his own country—would still remain entirely with the investor. The United States government would merely guarantee that any money thus paid to his credit on the borrowing country would become available in free dollars."

Such a guarantee should of course be given on loans and other investments made while the borrower's country abided by the undertaking on which the arrangement was based. The appropriate foundation would be an agreement between the United States and the country concerned, in which the latter undertook to refrain from imposing any obstacles to the transfer of returns from such investments, from levying discriminatory taxation, and from acts of expropriation or confiscation affecting such investments. The country concerned would, in addition, agree to assume full responsibility for any debts on which, through its failure to live up to its obligations, the guarantee of the United States government became effective."

## MOSCOW DIARY

I was waiting at the reception desk in the American Embassy recently when I heard voices from the corridor round the corner. Two senior political analysts were engaged in urgent discussion. "The Finnish defence attaché would probably be able to help," one said. "Perhaps we ought to have a word with him."

Clearly I was about to learn some secrets about the defence of the West. "Have you tried Sir Curtis?" the other asked. "You know Sir Curtis is under a lot of pressure at the moment," was the reply. Sir Curtis Keeble is the British Ambassador in Moscow. What could the matter be? But then it was instantly clear and all too typical of most conversations in embassy corridors at this time of year. They were talking about broomball.

Broomball, to remind anyone who has not already heard about the foibles of foreigners in Moscow, is an extraordinarily silly game played by Anglo-Saxons and a few others in winter. It is rather like ice-hockey played seven-a-side but you wear rubber-soled shoes—making it hard to manoeuvre on the ice—and play with a child's plastic ball and Russian twig brooms bound up with sticky tape into the form of a flail hook.

Over the years broomball, a locally invented game, has blossomed into a fully organized winter sport with a dozen or more teams from various embassies, a league table, a cup presented each year by British Airways, a set of rather arbitrary rules and a very competitive injury rate.

Sweden and Malaysia. Naturally no respectable team arrives without its supporters: long-suffering wives dragged out to the frequent intervals and friends who enter into the spirit of it all with a great deal of shouting, booing and rather crude instructions on what to do with this or that opposition player.

When you are in the thick of it, it's an authentic sporting atmosphere, but when you're enjoying a Saturday afternoon rest in the neighbouring embassy residence it is an unending raucous din. At least that is what the Finns found; and after an unfortunate trumpet-blowing incident last year the ambassador decided he did not want broomball on his ice any more.

A big meeting of the captains at the beginning of the season discussed retaliatory measures. Should the Finnish team, unbeaten champions year in year out, be banned from playing? It was a popular move, not least because it would then allow someone else to win the cup. But an uncharacteristically generous spirit prevailed, and instead the matches were rescheduled on only three rinks.



there was a new crisis. Some people became rather high-spirited on the Malaysian ice, broke into a locked shed and used broomball language to embassy officials. And that was the last game the Malaysians allowed on their rink. Meanwhile a member of the

American marines' team—marines provide the guards for United States embassies—took a dislike to a Canadian, strode out from his goal and knocked him out.

The British Ambassador, as one of the two remaining patrons, was then in a strong position. It was, after all, the Brits who invented the game, and Sir Curtis was determined to put a bit of British fair play into it. The league has now been abolished: each match is to be a friendly, and if there has to be a knockout competition—significantly—let it be at the end of the season when the thaw has already begun. The Mexicans and Finns are far from happy.

During my broom last year but was persuaded to return to the ice, or rather slush, because of the unexpectedly mild weather, on New Year's Day to play against the British Embassy team. Of course our side lost: I have never yet played on a winning side.

The British ladies deserved to win because they were so smartly turned out, blue and white uniforms with sweat-shirts saying "Great Britain" in big letters on their rinks. A good broomball T-shirt is half the

fun. It should properly have something in Russian written on it (the translation of "American Marine Corps" is very quaint and must astonish any Soviet onlookers).

Foreigners have been rather influenced by the Soviet passion for western T-shirts, only in reverse. A Russian slogan is very snob and does wonders for your status—not here, of course, but back in Britain, America or wherever.

After all, what's the fun of going home for holidays if you are not given a chance of boasting about living in Moscow? You cannot sit in the pub with your fur hat on, hoping someone will instantly take you for a Moscowite. But sport a jersey saying "Moskva" (Russian for Moscow) or a picture of St Basil's Cathedral on Red Square and someone is sure to tell you how he served on the Arctic convoys to Murmansk or once bought a Soviet camera that could never be repaired.

I have found the same gasps of astonishment can be cheaply produced by wringing your hands and wailing on the back of a cheque, and having the subsequent nonchalant patter all prepared. But I was rather taken aback a few weeks ago when I went into a well-known

clothes shop in England and made a great show of exclaiming over the magnificent shiny black plastic bag the shirt I bought as placed in.

Did you know, I asked the shop assistant, that where I live these bags can be sold on the black market for a great deal of money? "Oh yes, I know," he replied coolly. "You must come from Russia." I had forgotten that I had told him exactly the same thing a year earlier.

Off the broomstick rink it is more difficult to show off your status in Russia. Of course a usual curious feature, especially if it is one totally unshared by Moscow's roads and climate—a flashy American sports mode, for example, which can be guaranteed not to start in the cold mornings and needs expensive spares from halfway around the world. One well-known conductor at the Bolshoi has such a car—quite white—and has thus achieved the ultimate in status symbols. But nowadays it is not as rare as it was to see a Mercedes with Soviet number plates. I once even saw a new bright yellow Morgan cruising down the streets of Yerevan, the capital of Armenia.

Nor do smart clothes or the student look with faded jeans, Pepsi and Marlboro cigarettes attract attention any more; you could pass for any Muscovite keeping up with the trend, especially as Pepsi and Marlboro cigarettes are made in the Soviet Union.

But full broomball gear is still bizarre enough to turn a few heads and the game, even with the new restrictions and the annual additions to the rules, has now had enough publicity to keep it going for many more years. I suggested to a Chinese diplomat that his embassy might have room in its vast compound (the second largest in the world, after the Soviet Embassy in Peking) for a little rink in one corner of Moscow's broomballers. He was intrigued but said the only suitable place had a large ornamental fountain in the middle, and that would complicate the rules immensely.

So the enthusiasts will have to make do with two rinks and abide by British notions of what constitutes a proper, silly, amateur knockabout—not knockout—game.

Michael Binyon





## POLICE AND THEIR SUSPECTS

The Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure had the difficult and sensitive task of trying to devise a publicly acceptable balance between competing positions, which have not always been argued by their supporters rationally or moderately, on a subject of great interest and importance to society. The report it has produced is impressive in its intellectual approach and in its appreciation of the significance of the issues involved. It is unanimous in the sense that every member of the Commission has signed it, though throughout the text there is evidence of disagreement in a number of areas. All the members, however, accept the general thrust of the Commission's recommendations. The differences of opinion about specific topics merely emphasize the complexity of the subject-matter, and should not detract from the impact of the conclusions reached.

Part of the Commission's job was to bring rationality and intelligibility to the wide variety of laws on police powers, many of which have developed piecemeal and often anomalously over more than a century. That, the Commission has done with considerable success. If its proposals were to be implemented, there would be, for the first time since the police came into being, a series of laws and codes governing every aspect of the relationship between the police and the individual who might come into contact with them in a criminal matter. They would tell the police exactly what they were under a duty to do, and what they were entitled to do, and they would tell the individual exactly what his rights were.

Setting up a rational system of criminal procedure is not, however, the end of the matter. The question is whether the proposals allow the police to pursue the objective of detecting crime and bringing criminals to justice without being unduly hampered by restrictive laws, and at the same time provide a suspect with sufficient safeguards against oppression and misconduct on the part of the police. In particular does it provide safeguards against police practices which might result in wrongful conviction? On the whole, the Commission has succeeded in drawing

that fine balance on paper, but its recommendations require that society place a level of confidence in police behaviour, and in their commitment to the laws and rules laid down, that cannot be taken for granted.

The broad effect of the Commission's proposals, seen as a package (which is how they should be looked at) would be to rationalize, but also in some cases, to increase police powers. At the same time they would lay down a stricter legal basis on which the police would exercise those powers, and provide additional and clearly defined rights for suspects. The balance is there in theory. But will the police keep within the rules?

The civil liberties lobby believes that the only way to ensure police adherence to the rules is to make any evidence obtained by exceeding lawful powers inadmissible at a subsequent trial. The Commission, except where there has been "inhuman or degrading treatment", has rejected an automatic exclusionary rule of that kind; it prefers to leave policemen who overstep their authority to be disciplined by their superiors, or possibly be sued in the civil courts. Judges would be expected to draw the attention of a jury to the fact that evidence had been obtained by improper means, and require them to find corroborative evidence in support.

It is not easy to assess whether those consequences would be sufficient to persuade the police that they should stick scrupulously to the laws and rules proposed governing detention and interrogation. But having an exclusionary rule would not necessarily provide a more effective sanction. Where such a rule has been in operation in the United States, it has largely failed to curb excessive police behaviour.

The Commission has been unnecessarily cautious about tape recordings. It recognized that the recording of police interviews with suspects would be the most appropriate way of protecting the suspect against being "verbalised", would monitor the way in which the police behaved, and provide the police themselves with protection against false allegations about their con-

duct. It then shied away from the logical conclusion that all interrogations in police stations should be recorded.

The Commission did so mainly on the ground of cost, though the amount involved—£6.5 million annually—is relatively modest and would form only a very small proportion of the total budget for the administration of justice. There are other difficulties as well—the lack of interview rooms with the necessary acoustical standards, and the difficulty of finding staff to transcribe the tapes—but these are surely not insuperable. Most of the expenditure would be in the transcription, rather than the taping, but as the vast majority of interrogations would not subsequently be challenged, it would only be necessary to transcribe those interviews which were in issue at the trial.

The existence of the so-called right of silence has been a subject of controversy for many years, with the police claiming that it allows serious criminals to go free (an assertion which has never been backed by convincing evidence) and those concerned with the rights of the suspect insisting that it was an essential safeguard, especially for the inadequate and the innocent. The Commission is right in recommending that judges and prosecutors should not be given the right to comment on a suspect's refusal to answer police questions, to point out the inconsistency of having an adversarial system which requires the prosecution to prove guilt, and incorporating into it the possibility that silence by an accused could form part of the prosecution's case.

The Commission is right, too, to reject the establishment of a national prosecution service, and to concentrate instead on the service provided locally. The division of responsibility between the police, who would retain control of the investigation process and the new Crown prosecutors' departments, which would make all the decisions affecting the prosecution, and conduct the case in court, is based on sound logical grounds. It is not in the interests of justice that investigation and prosecution should be in the same hands.

## JAPAN'S DEFENCE—A NATIONAL DEBATE

It is significant that the first visit abroad of Mr Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister, is not to Washington but to Asia. It demonstrates the way in which Japan is slowly emerging from her post-war dependence on the United States and restoring her traditional political and trading links with Asia. This time she is not seeking military domination as she did in the 1930s. However, the shift in her political orientation cannot be divorced from the growing debate over defence.

For some years Japan has been under pressure from the United States to increase her military budget on the grounds that she can well afford the cost and might reasonably be expected to bear a greater share of the burden of maintaining peace in East Asia. This pressure has not come as a surprise to the Japanese. The comforting image of a peaceful country busy with economic growth—and bound to be peaceful to secure vital imports of raw materials—has been shaken by events. Like it or not, the "low posture" that Japan has found so comfortable will no longer serve.

The first warning was the American withdrawal from Vietnam followed by President Carter's proposal for a phased withdrawal of the American divisions still in South Korea. At the same time, under Chinese pressure, Japan signed a friendship treaty in Peking, a move greeted with marked lack of enthusiasm in Moscow. American diplomatic ties with China brought home to the Japanese the prospect of far eastern realignment. What if they were

right in thinking that the American commitment to their interests was becoming less reliable? A poll in 1979 showed that Japanese support for the security treaty with the United States was still strong, but scarcely less strong was the opinion that in an emergency the Americans could not be relied upon to come to Japan's aid.

All this has set going a debate in Japan on defence and on the clause in the American-imposed constitution by which Japan forswears war and the maintenance of offensive armed forces. The decision to increase defence spending by 6.5 per cent in 1981 instead of the 9.7 per cent promised last month to Mr Harold Brown, the American Defence Secretary, is an interim step while the debate goes on.

The purely military reasons for the debate are obvious enough to all open-minded Japanese. The expansion of Soviet military, naval and air forces in the Far East now far exceeds Japan's defensive strength. The use for military purposes of Kunashiri and Etorofu, the islands occupied by the Russians to which Japan's claim continues to be ignored, adds nationalist emotion. Russian warships are all over far eastern waters and make regular use of Vietnamese ports. Japanese air routes and sea lanes are filled with Soviet reconnaissance craft. There have been enough Soviet violations of Japanese air space and territorial waters to bring home to the Japanese their manifest weakness.

These facts alone would call for improvements in Japan's forces, but coupled with the

growth of self-confidence in the 1970s they contribute to all those questions about Japan's place and purpose in the world which have been agreeably shelved since the defeat of 1945. Many influential Japanese think there is no cause for radical change. Japan is a member of the western block, they argue, and naturally ought to make a contribution commensurate with her economic power. This is still the mainstream position, and it allows an increase in the military budget while stopping short of revoking Article Nine of the Constitution.

However, more is now being heard of the view that the era in which Japan was taught to "lose in style" has ended. Economic power demands new goals and more effective government. "Existing democracy may be unable to produce the necessary unity of will," it is said, so there is hankering for a Japanese de Gaulle and a return to Confucian ideals of honour and spiritual nobility.

No dramatic change of this or any other kind is likely in the foreseeable future. At most, talk of a more forward foreign policy goes on, as if to assert independence without fastening on any one issue. There is some unease. Are Japan's relations with the Russians too much defined or constrained by membership of the western alliance? Does Japan enjoy a proper status by virtue of her western associations? But so far there is no national consensus for fresh answers, nor any pressure on Mr Suzuki to seek one.

## SOE in the Balkans

From Sir Peter Wilkinson  
Sir, As one of the "survivors" referred to by Mr M. R. D. Foot in his letter (January 3), may I endorse his plea for an official history of the work of the Special Operations Executive (SOE) in the Balkans? And the sooner the better; for there are very few left with sufficient knowledge of SOE's exertions in Whitehall, in Baker Street, in Cairo, and in the field—and fewer still with first-hand experience of all four manifestations of the SOE's work. The SOE's archives that are believed still to exist.

Unless something is done soon, history will be utterly confused by the myths of the media and the partial judgments of certain of those who worked for (or against) SOE in the Balkans.

Indeed, there is much to be said for widening the subject and commissioning a comprehensive account of the part which Britain played in helping members of the European resistance movements to make their unique contribution not only to the Allied victory in 1945 but to the ideal of European unity which remains our earnest hope.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,  
PETER WILKINSON,  
Mill House,  
Charing, Kent.

## Civil Service criticism

From Sir Antony Part  
Sir, Before the correspondence on "TV criticism of the Civil Service" is closed may I return to the BBC *Newsweek* programme that gave rise to it?

Whatever the Editor of *Newsweek* may say (letter, December 11), the preliminary briefing was perfunctory compared with that of other programmes in which I have participated; no mention was made of the intention to highlight the Channel tunnel or the Charles de Gaulle Airport (comments on which from the British side would have been relevant and effective); my own contribution was restricted by the producer to a reflective tail-piece filmed as an afterthought by the BBC, and all my comments on some of the fashionable criticisms were omitted; so was the entire contribution, largely favourable I understand, to the Civil Service, made by a well known public figure.

This whole incident highlights, I believe, a problem to which those responsible for television might well give more careful consideration. With honourable exceptions they have developed the practice of putting in charge of programmes on particular subjects—producers or interviewers, or both—people who, professing to know little or nothing about those subjects and expect to be able to mug them up in some

such period as three weeks. When they are criticised for excessive superficiality or for lack of balance they say that the critics mean that they have not done their "research" properly. The truth is that no amount of rushed "research" can make up for a lack of underlying knowledge.

This is not intended as special pleading on behalf of the Civil Service. It is a much wider problem, as recent controversies show, and one that it cannot be easy for the television organisers to solve. Nevertheless the BBC at least does employ considerable resources on news and current affairs, and one cannot help wondering whether the present fragmentation of these resources, over different programmes and services could not usefully be replaced by an organisation within the BBC that provides a knowledge in greater depth of the main sectors of public affairs.

If this were done, it could do much to improve the level of public discussion of some controversial matters and especially perhaps of those that are complex and difficult.

Yours faithfully,  
ANTONY PART,  
Flat 5,  
71 Elm Park Gardens, SW10.  
January 5.

## The hard choices on defence

From Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton  
Sir, Mr Barnett is a competent historian, and has written agreeably about some military matters long past. His letter in your issue of December 22 demonstrates that he should stick to his last, for the making of defence policy is now a complicated and difficult matter for the life-time professionals, and well beyond the grasp of armchair dilettantes.

It is his astounding ignorance of Allied problems in the Nato area, and the probably graver threat to ourselves and our friends outside it, which calls for comment. It is common ground among informed observers that the land-air forces of Nato in central Europe are there to deter a Russian attack, whether from a standing start or after due preparation. It is equally common ground that their numbers and arms are on the borderline of adequacy for this purpose, and that their deterrent value is only credible because they can be supplied, resupplied and reinforced by sea, across the North Atlantic.

The vital support of the Central Region of Nato thus depends directly upon the ocean-going ships of the Royal Navy. There are no others in existence which could take their place, and not only do our Allies know it, but so do the Russians.

If the land-air forces in the Central Region of Nato are to be increased or strengthened, and they certainly need to be, this would clearly best be done by those Allies who cannot contribute to the maritime deterrent forces. Rhine Army and RAF Germany are certainly important components of Northern Army Group and the Second Allied Tactical Air Force in political terms, but they are small in number, and although well trained are no longer in the front rank for equipment. If Trident were abandoned, the projected annual savings would be just enough to put one additional armoured division and possibly two more squadrons of aircraft in their orders of battle. I am certain that neither our Allies nor the Russians would feel that deterrence had thereby been significantly enhanced, or that Allied war-fighting capability made decisively greater should deterrence unhappily fail.

But the whole huge and difficult question of deterrence outside the Nato area has been ignored by Mr Barnett and his Nato Allies, who have the educated view that it is there, and not in Western Europe, that the greatest threat to the free world now lies. The statistics of what is at risk in the South Atlantic, the Indian Ocean, the Arabian Sea and the Gulf are by now well known, even if they have escaped Mr Barnett. Interdiction of those supply routes would quickly bring the industries of Western Europe and North America to a grinding halt, and destroy our way of life; and this is precisely why the British navy is the size and shape it is. It can only be deterred or prevented by globally deployed sea power, and even a cursory glance at Jane's would make it clear that without the Royal Navy at its present minimum strength the job cannot be done.

I remain, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
HILL-NORTON,  
House of Lords.

From Wing Commander Derek Dudley Martin  
Sir, Brigadier Shelford Bidwell's list (December 31) is a useful start. Most who have served in the Armed Forces could add to it.

Why is it necessary to give military rank (with the inevitable expense that rank involves) to the education branch or to doctors and dentists? And is there any longer any justification for three Services? Yours faithfully,  
DEREK DUDLEY MARTIN,  
Cobble Wood,  
Medmenham,  
Marlow,  
Buckinghamshire.

From Lieutenant-Colonel Sir G. Kennard  
Sir, Perhaps Brigadier Shelford Bidwell, in his computerized solution to defence (December 31), has forgotten that the greatest factor in war remains morale.

That morale feeds on the tradition of the regiment, its history, customs, and its uniform, so that in many hundred years the thin red line has never been truly broken. Nor will it ever be if the man behind the gun remains the same. Yours faithfully,  
G. KENNARD,  
Tiverton,  
Devon.  
January 6.

## Surviving a nuclear attack

From Mr Edward Leigh  
Sir, When the Deputy Leader of the Labour Opposition at the GLC, Mr David Harrington, criticizes me for saying that more money needs to be spent on defence and in particular on civil defence despite cut-backs in other areas of public expenditure (letter, December 29), I am reminded of the words of the Deputy Leader of her Majesty's Opposition, Mr Denis Healey, "I warn my honourable Friends that once we cut defence expenditure to the extent where our security is imperilled, we have no homes, we have no hospitals, we have no schools, we have a heap of cinders." Yours faithfully,  
EDWARD LEIGH,  
Members' Lobby,  
The County Hall, SE1.

## Sticky business

From Mr Eric Sampson  
Sir, Mr Moriarty (January 6) will find acetone (nail varnish remover) or proprietary brands of paint brush cleaner will dissolve his problems. A vat of boiling oil is needed to dissolve the cause of them. Yours sincerely,  
ERIC SAMPSON,  
Science Research Council,  
PO Box 18,  
Swindon,  
Wiltshire,  
January 7.

## Cairngorms ski developments

From Mr Peter Hodgkiss and Mr Mark Hutchinson

Sir, We would welcome the opportunity to express the objections of the Mountaineering Council of Scotland and the British Mountaineering Council to ski developments in the northern corries of Cairngorm, touched on by Ronald Faux (December 30) but so briefly that misunderstanding could arise.

The councils accept the overwhelming demand for expansion of skiing in the Scottish Highlands and are broadly in favour of development to meet the demand. However, we believe most earnestly that these should only be allowed to take place within the context of a highland-wide policy plan that gives full weight to environmental factors and existing recreational use and balances the claims against the commercial viability of any proposal. Sadly, no such far-sighted planning has yet emerged.

Why is it that Coire an t-Sneachda and Coire an Lochain are so valuable to hill walkers and climbers? First, the Cairngorms are one of the few areas of mountain wilderness in Western Europe and provide the most extensive high level hill walking in Britain. An area of such unique quality already carries a scar of considerable magnitude. Secondly, the two corries provide particularly good winter climbing grounds. Thirdly, the moderate grades and reasonable length, combined with the lack of serious and committing snow normally associated with Scottish winter climbing grounds.

Visual intrusion, noise and erosion, the inevitable consequences of ski development, are just the aspects mountaineers seek to escape in the hills. When one considers the quality of the area and the fact that the development will serve a highly seasonal demand but despoil per-

manently, the widely held objections of the mountain users are, we believe, understandable and justified. Yours faithfully,  
PETER HODGKISS,  
Mountaineering Council of Scotland,  
MARK HUTCHINSON,  
British Mountaineering Council,  
Crawford House,  
Preston Centre,  
Brook Street East, Manchester.

From Mr F. D. Hamilton  
Sir, Ronald Faux's recent article (December 30) on the proposed expansion of skiing facilities in the Cairngorms highlights a very important conservation issue. It can hardly be surprising that this threat to one of the most environmentally sensitive areas of Scotland has attracted objections from a wide range of amenity and nature conservation bodies including the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

The Cairngorm plateau is the outstanding example of the only habitat in Britain to be mentioned in the world conservation strategy as being in need of greater protection. International experts and local interests alike have expressed their deep concern that such a development should be proposed so close to such a vulnerable area.

While employment opportunities in an area such as the Highlands should not be lightly dismissed, the solution, as mentioned in your article, is for expansion of skiing facilities to take place in one or more of several areas other than Cairngorm where they would not have significant environmental impact. This would have the added advantage of making the economic benefits from ski developments more widely available. Yours faithfully,  
F. D. HAMILTON,  
Director (Scotland),  
The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds,  
17 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh.

## Monetarism's testing time

From Professor Wynne Godley and Professor Robert Neild  
Sir, Professor Neild's Friedman, in an article in *The Times* of March 2, 1980, stated that in Britain it takes on average about six months for monetary growth to affect real growth and two years to affect inflation; he also issued a challenge to some of us in Cambridge "to offer empirical evidence contradicting these well-established propositions".

Now Mr Jay (January 5) claims that monetarism is a doctrine (sic) which "maintains that changes in the stock of money (less any changes in real productivity) will, after a delay of three to five years, determine the rate of inflation". An idea he specifically associates with the work of Professor Friedman.

If they want to be taken seriously, Mr Jay and his fellow monetarists cannot pluck a number out of the air just because monetarism is falling to work as predicted. They must make up their minds how long the lag is, and explain precisely how they reached that conclusion.

The evidence does not support either proposition. The two-year lag

appeared to work in the early 1970s for the purely fortuitous reason that the rise in oil prices came two years after competition and credit control let loose the money supply; but it completely failed to account for the price explosion of 1979 and 1980. The three to five-year lag fails to explain the price increase in 1973 and 1974 and the deceleration after 1977.

And who is Mr Jay to say that unemployment, permanently in the low millions, is what the British "basically deserve"? Unemployment is not the inescapable consequence of present wage bargaining practices, which were in operation during many years of full employment and negligible inflation. The present rise in unemployment is the direct consequence of the Government's fiscal policies which, together with high interest rates, have "hugely" raised the exchange rate and reduced real demand and output.

Yours faithfully,  
WYNNE GODLEY,  
ROBERT NEILD,  
University of Cambridge  
(Department of Applied Economics),  
Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge.

## Dressing for the job

From Mr A. J. P. Dalton  
Sir, Ms Anne Potter, Kingston and Richmond Area Health Authority nursing personnel officer, states that the wearing of trousers by nurses would offend tradition (report, January 6). Does she mean the tradition of nurses developing bad backs?

In some hospitals two nurses can lift a total of 23 tons in one hour toiling to change a patient. Surveys have shown that an amazing one in 15 nurses suffer a back injury in the course of a year. Many nurses suffer irreparable damage, considerable pain and have to leave the profession for this reason.

Recommendation 14 of the recent Royal College of Nursing (RCN) report, "Avoiding Low Back Injury Among Nurses", was, "That nurses' uniform should be modified to incorporate a trouser suit, to permit nurses to effect a correct lifting stance on all occasions."

Apparently the tradition of uniform for nurses dates from the twelfth century. Backache likewise is not new. This is the twentieth century. Let us hope the tribunal realises this and finds for Ms Kaur wearing trousers. All nurses, and thus patients, will benefit.

Such a decision will go some way to ensuring that, in the words of the RCN report, "Nursing should not be an occupation in which the fittest survive".

Yours sincerely,  
ALAN J. P. DALTON,  
Lecturer in Health and Safety,  
South West London College,  
Centre for Higher Business Studies,  
Abbotswood Road, SW16.  
January 6.

## Art of the portrait

From Mr J. S. Ward, RA

Sir, It seems a pity that John Russell Taylor (article, December 30) could not make more of the National Portrait Gallery's exhibition of new British portraiture (Imperial Tobacco award).

These are desperate times for young painters with the drying up of part-time teaching which, for the past fifty years, has helped so many serious painters over the difficult early years, and new areas of patronage are badly needed. Everyone knows that hundreds of thousands of pounds are spent annually on portraiture, and this was a splendid and generous attempt to introduce new blood into this field.

For many years portraiture has been so despised by art critics that it has had none of the benefits of helpful criticism, and here was an opportunity for an appraisal of the art of the portrait by the National Portrait Gallery's exhibition of new British portraiture (Imperial Tobacco award).

Drab and unimaginative Mr Taylor calls the entries, but could he not enlarge upon why so much of the work suffers in this way? Could he not use the powerful, yet enchanting, Reynolds of Garrick and his wife which we pass on the way to the exhibition to show where their work could benefit? Could he not have pointed out that the other rooms demonstrate what a rich variety of portraits are possible, from the huge groups to such tiny masterpieces as that of Colin Campbell by Francis Grant?

Many painters will feel that Mr Taylor has let slip a rare and golden opportunity to be both critical and helpful. But all good wishes to those young painters who were brave enough to enter the competition and congratulations to the National Portrait Gallery and their sponsors for achieving an exhibition which is arousing great interest, and may it revive this great art. Yours faithfully,  
JOHN WARD,  
Bilking Court,  
Ashford,  
Kent.  
December 31.

## Tree management for energy uses

From Dr George Peterkin  
Sir, It is heartening to hear that James Blewitt and other farmers are turning their attention to planting and pollarding oaks for fuel (January 5). Perhaps, too, that other traditional form of tree management, coppicing, will return for much the same reasons.

Small, formerly coppiced woods are scattered through the countryside and, despite decades of neglect, could once again supply fuel indefinitely to rural communities without even having to be planted. And the benefits for wildlife would be tremendous. Yours sincerely,  
GEORGE PETERKIN,  
PO Box 6,  
Gadwin House,  
Grove Street,  
Huntingdon,  
January 7.

## Planting policy

From the County Planning Officer, Royal County of Berkshire  
Sir, I have no wish to enter Mr Stourton's anthropomorphic trap as to whether horse chestnuts are native (January 3). However, local authorities offering grant aid for tree planting in the countryside do so jointly with the Countryside Commission. Indeed the majority of the funds come from the commission.

The scheme has, therefore, to be operated in accordance with their advice which includes, "to accommodate landscape and nature conservation requirements, to plant broad-leaved trees should be used predominantly". They also state, "non-native trees which may be acceptable as a small proportion in planting schemes include sweet chestnut, horse chestnut, southern beech, grey alder and sycamore".

Thus the question is not one of history but of sympathy with the existing landscape of this country and its role in nature conservation. While introduced trees are often important from an aesthetic or commercial point of view, they should not be encouraged to become dominant in this would change the landscape that characterizes this country and reduce its potential for the conservation of wildlife.

This council encourages the planting of trees in the countryside but, in these days of financial stringency, priority must be given to schemes which make the most appropriate contribution. Yours faithfully,  
R. S. STODART,  
County Planning Officer,  
Royal County of Berkshire,  
Department of Planning,  
Shire Hall,  
Reading, Berkshire.  
January 6.

## Coverage of Sutcliffe case

From Mr S. P. Dool  
Sir, Having viewed television programmes tonight (January 5) dealing with the arrest in Yorkshire and subsequent appearance before Dewsbury Magistrates of Mr P. W. Sutcliffe, I am driven to ask whether we need, particularly in murder and other serious cases, judges and juries to determine after long and intense inquiry, guilt or innocence; still less, of course, solicitors or barristers to defend the accused.

The high priests of the broadcasting industry with their superior skills—so triumphantly demonstrated only recently in another and media court case by a *Newsnight* team—placed us further in their debt tonight, rendering our cherished (but to them, no doubt, obscure) notions of justice obsolete and showing how the public, in a few minutes of mass viewing, can be guided to its verdict in the absence of the relevant evidence one might even say, of the accused.

Yours faithfully,  
S. P. BEST,  
British Legal Association,  
29 Chancery Road,  
Royal Tunbridge Wells,  
Kent.  
January 5.

## Effectiveness of fines

From Mr A. J. Brayshaw  
Sir, Mr John Wheeler (January 2) has not understood the realities of the situation. Already, by law, courts take account of the means of offenders, so far as they are known, although there is some doubt (which needs resolving) whether fines may be legally increased for the wealthy as they must be decreased for the poor. Any guidelines or starting points are modified according to this factor among others.

If a better-off motorist is fined, say, £70 for careless driving he can, should, and usually does pay promptly. If an unemployed man—and it is surprising how many of them commit motoring offences—is fined £40 for a similar offence he may be reluctant to pay at, say, £2 a week. Discounts for prompt payment are not very relevant.

Yours faithfully,  
A. J. BRAYSHAW,  
Apple Trees,  
Beech Road,  
Haslemere,  
Surrey.  
January 2.

## Special jury service

From Mr John H. Fisher Evans  
Sir, On reading your critique (January 6) of recent accounts of corruption in the Carmarthen past years I was reminded of the occasion early in this century when Mr Llewellyn Williams, QC, MP, a distinguished Welsh politician, lawyer, and Oxford scholar, travelling on circuit from Chester to Carmarthen Assize and witnessing from his carriage the final run of a foxhound chase in full cry reflected, in Welsh of course, "Pwr llyf fawr (cadno bach)" nothing but a Carmarthen jury could save you now." Yours truly,  
JOHN H. FISHER EVANS,  
6 Windsor House,  
Westgate Street,  
Cardiff.  
January 6.

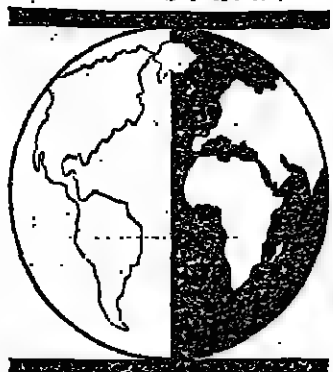












## Antitrust trial to go ahead

A United States district court has ordered that the Justice Department's civil antitrust case to break up the American Telephone & Telegraph Co. should go to trial as planned on January 15, despite a request by both sides for a postponement because of what the court called agreement on a framework for a settlement.

Lawyers for both sides made the request orally to Judge Harold H. Greene, who has been prodding the parties to move faster in the six-year-old Sherman Act case.

Judge Greene denied the request in a partly worded six-page order issued hours after AT & T and Mr Sanford M. Litvak, the assistant attorney general, confirmed a report published in the *Washington Star* that settlement talks had been under way and had made progress.

The judge said he was refusing to postpone the start of the trial because he regarded the settlement talks as incomplete.

**Tokyo interest plea**  
The Bank of Japan has been urged to reduce further the official discount rate at an early date from the present 7.25 per cent a year. The request for a rate reduction came separately from Mr Toshio Konoto, director-general of the official Economic Planning Agency, and Mr Shigeo Nagano, president of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The size of the previous cutbacks by the bank has been considered unsatisfactory by industry leaders.

**US surplus expected**  
Mr C. Fred Bergsten, the United States assistant treasury secretary, said in Washington he expects a current account surplus of \$5,000m (about £2,083m) in 1980, and a surplus of \$10,000m in 1981. The 1980 surplus would be achieved by a \$25,000m deficit in the merchandise trade sector, and a \$30,000m surplus in the services sector, he said.

**Alcohol in petrol**  
M André Giraud, the French industry minister, will introduce a plan soon to encourage the use of vegetable-based alcohol in petrol, a ministry spokesman said in Paris. The ministry refused to confirm or deny a report that the plan would start with a decree allowing oil companies to dilute petrol with up to 15 per cent alcohol.

**Ula field costs mount**  
BP Petroleum Development of Norway is looking at ways to reduce costs in the development of the Ula field in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea, a spokesman said in Oslo. Development costs under present plans could rise by about 40 per cent from original estimates of 7,200m crowns (about £557m).

**Uranium pact row**  
Austrian Opposition members have criticised an agreement signed on uranium sales to France on grounds that safeguards were inadequate. Mr Thomas Uren, the former deputy prime minister, described the agreement as a record of gross irresponsibility in nuclear matters.

**Honda-Fiat talks**  
Honda, Japan's fifth-largest car maker, is negotiating an agreement with Fiat of Italy to manufacture motor cycles in Italy. Honda already turns out 3,000 motor cycles a month in Italy through IAP Industrial Corp, which is 56.2 per cent owned by Honda.

**Reagan tax cut date**  
Financial advisers to Mr Ronald Reagan, the American President-elect, have still not decided whether a 10 per cent tax cut for 1981 should begin on January 1 or July 1. Mr Kevin Hopkins, a Reagan administration spokesman, said in Washington.

**Swiss retail sales up**  
Swiss retail sales in November 1980 were 3.6 per cent higher than in October and were up 7.8 per cent from November 1979, the federal government says, noting that the increase resulted from greater sales of food, beverages and tobacco.

**Orders index falls**  
The index of incoming orders for West German manufacturing industry, base 1976, fell 2.9 per cent seasonally adjusted in November after an upwards revised 1.9 per cent October rise, provisional economics ministry figures in Bonn show.

**Wine output slump**  
France's wine production was 17.2 per cent below that of 1979, because of bad weather. French growers produced 69.2 million hectolitres of wine last year, compared with 82.5 million hectolitres in 1979.

**Budget deficit steady**  
The French government's budget deficit for the first 11 months of 1980 stood at 41,590m francs (about £3,880m), only slightly above the shortfall of 41,110m francs in the same period of 1979, the economics ministry said in Paris.

In last quarter 160 businesses on average ceased trading every week

## Record number of liquidations

More companies than ever went out of business in 1980, according to Dun & Bradstreet, the business information group. In the final quarter of the year an average of 160 companies a week went into liquidation.

By the end of the year 6,814 companies had gone into liquidation in England and Wales, 30 per cent of them in the final three months of the year. The deepening recession not only put more companies out of business than in any single previous year but also increased commercial debt, and reduced new starts.

Although about 143,000 new firms or partnerships were at least provisionally registered in 1980, of which 67,000 were new companies, Dun & Bradstreet says that a better economic climate would almost certainly have seen more new companies emerging.

Meanwhile, the commercial debts of surviving companies passed on for collection to Dun & Bradstreet alone rose above £33m last year, and the number of bankruptcies rose by 10 per cent, ending a falling trend since 1976, when industry began to recover from the slump of 1974-75.

Compulsory liquidations of companies rose 49 per cent to 3,058 last year and voluntary liquidations jumped by 51 per cent.

Nor surprisingly, credit became harder to obtain, even for well-regarded "household" names in industry; and at the same time, companies became understandably anxious to restrict the credit facilities extended to customers, particularly as they cut back spending on their own promotion.

Even in the prosperous South, some companies were sufficiently hard-pressed to get rid of surplus goods that they secured "verdict" bad credit risks to win sales, and delayed paying their own debts in the meantime.

Shipping and freight handling companies were notably guilty of delaying payment, and steel users, like car manufacturers, suffered cash flow difficulties. Small boatbuilders in the South also had difficulty in getting credit.

But it was the industrial North and Midlands that really suffered from falling demand and credit squeezes. In the North and East, where the textile trade's decline accelerated, there have been many problems in raising credit, and debt collection has been speeded up and passed on to the agencies much earlier than usual.

Similarly, in the North-west the recession has meant both tougher debt collection tactics and a rise in bad debts. Building and contracting companies and those supplying the motor trades have been the worst hit.

In the Midlands, where industry is very nervous, companies have hesitated to press for prompt payment of debts for fear of losing custom which has not sided their own cash flow.

As usual, it is the smaller companies which are least willing or able to press for payment. But it seems that Dun & Bradstreet's Midlands clients have to write off a bad debt, and will go to all possible lengths to recover money owed to them although it is not specified what these lengths may be.

In Scotland and Wales, "even amusement machine manufacturers are chasing small debts owed to them by clubs and amusement arcades," the report says.

More small businessmen in Wales have found a simple answer to their problems and "moved" overnight, leaving a pile of unpaid bills behind.

In Scotland, where orders are well down and textile and engineering businesses are vanishing fast, lack of cash is preventing debts being pursued through the courts. However, the long list of closures and the demand for credit falling off in the last two months of 1980, after a steady rise for most of the year.

Business is apparently less buoyant for the business information and debt collection agencies in Northern Ireland. Dun & Bradstreet is exhorting industry to check their customers' credit standing there very carefully, as more companies go into liquidation.

Catherine Gunn

## Orders for chemical complex may bring 10,000 man-years of work

By John Huxley  
Up to 10,000 man-years of work for process plant suppliers could be provided by orders for the £300m ethylene cracker being built by Esso Chemical at Milford Haven.

Contracts to supply the heavier items of equipment for the complex are expected to be placed in the first quarter of this year, and the value of those for hardware alone is put at about £140m.

The Process Plant Association, whose members have been struggling to survive the gradual drop in orders over recent years, has been pressing hard to ensure that the bulk of these orders are placed in the United Kingdom.

Yesterday, representatives from about 100 process plant companies attended a presentation by Mr Jimmy Knox, Esso's project executive, at which the company's plan for plant order was outlined. Lummus, the main contractor, was also represented.

The meeting in London was the first occasion on which industry leaders have met a large potential client together. Later, the Process Plant Association said that the experiment would probably be repeated.

Mr Tony Taylor, president of the association and a director of Babcock International, said that the meeting had helped to create "the right climate in which our members can market and sell process plant for major projects."

Members now have a much better idea of Esso's requirements and, indeed, of their problems. This is the only petrochemical plant of any real size due for construction in the immediate future, and could represent as many as 10,000 jobs for 12 months in the process plant industry.

Next week, the association will have talks with officials at the Department of Industry, whose support it has tried to enlist in its campaign to win a large share of the Mossesra contracts.

Esso has made it clear that it would prefer, if possible, to place the majority of contracts in the United Kingdom, and that it sees clear advantages in doing so. Lines of communication with suppliers would be shorter, for example.

However, Mr Knox is understood to have emphasized again the priority attached by Esso to quality, delivery on schedule, and price when ordering.

Among the issues raised by association members was the effect on the competitiveness of British tenders of present domestic and overseas steel prices.

Mr Harry Hornsby, the association's director general, explained that there was confusion over price comparison, although it seemed that some large users of British steel were at a disadvantage when competing with overseas rivals.

However, the British Steel Corporation had indicated that it would help by showing "flexibility" in its dealings with large users.

The process plant industry has an annual turnover of about £2,000m and employs about 10,000 people.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne, head of the Royal Dutch/Shell group, said in London yesterday that the oil industry worldwide was investing £1.90 for every \$1 of profit it made. It was prepared to continue doing so if it was allowed to operate within a secure fiscal framework which allowed assessment of potential risk and return.

But in recent years governments had raised taxes unexpectedly, restricted exploration and held down prices of products to uneconomic levels.

The recent decision of the United Kingdom Government to impose a 20 per cent supplementary oil revenue tax on North Sea producers was one example, he said.

In Bahrain, Mr David Howell, the United Kingdom Secretary of State for Energy, said the West had an immense political commitment to reduce dependency on imported oil.

Addressing the Bahrain Society of Engineers during a brief visit to Gulf states, he said that one benefit from the Iran/Iraq war was that the consumers had been able to show the producers that they had profited from the lessons of 1973 and 1979.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

## Prices of canned beers set to rise

By Derek Harris  
Commercial Editor  
A rise in canned beer prices to the take-home trade, represented largely by the supermarkets, is expected to go through from many brewers this month, effectively adding 4p to large cans.

In most cases it means the first increase for a year. Prices charged to the take-home trade have been the target of increasing criticism from public house agents, who fear the brewers have been discriminating heavily in favour of the supermarkets in order to increase their individual market shares.

Mr Arnold Elliott, president of the National Union of Licensed Victuallers (NULV), the tenants' trade association, yesterday welcomed the price increases as a "responsible action" by the brewers. But he said it was "not enough".

He barely restored the balance between prices to the take-home trade and public house sector. Where, as prices to the supermarkets would hold for a year, those to the public houses would not necessarily do so, he said.

Allied Breweries is raising its canned beer prices and so is Whitbread, is believed to be considering increases next month.

The wholesale price rises represent increases of around 13 per cent.

Average beer prices in brewery-owned outlets rose by around 21 per cent in the year to last autumn, compared with 12.8 per cent in supermarkets and 10 per cent in clubs.

The rise was claimed by Mr Colin Mitchell, a leading drinks analyst at Buckmaster & Moore, the London brokers.

Mr Mitchell has been among those warning that such wide differences in pricing could jeopardise the Monopolies and Mergers Commission's investigation into the number of public house closures. It fears closures will increase this year despite the brewers' moves on prices to supermarkets.

Canned beer, largely sold through supermarkets, accounts for more than 10 per cent of total beer production.

Brewers could still continue to give supermarkets advantages such as low-price promotional offers and longer credit periods, Mr Mitchell has claimed that some brewers have in the past been sold as loss-leaders to supermarkets.

But Mr Mitchell has forecast that more brewery closures are likely, to reduce the imbalance between production and demand. He believes brewers will now offer fewer low-price promotions and less generous credit terms.

The NULV has already noticed some signs of a decline in specific demand. It has a growing belief in the trade that advantageous free trade deals, benefiting the clubs, are on the decline.

The brewers, faced with probable price increases in production over the next few months are under pressure to improve their individual market shares in the free trade.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

## Oil taxes threatening future investment

By Nicholas Hirst  
Higher taxes on oil production, such as those recently announced by the British Government on North Sea output, could threaten future oil company investment.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne, head of the Royal Dutch/Shell group, said in London yesterday that the oil industry worldwide was investing £1.90 for every \$1 of profit it made. It was prepared to continue doing so if it was allowed to operate within a secure fiscal framework which allowed assessment of potential risk and return.

But in recent years governments had raised taxes unexpectedly, restricted exploration and held down prices of products to uneconomic levels.

The recent decision of the United Kingdom Government to impose a 20 per cent supplementary oil revenue tax on North Sea producers was one example, he said.

In Bahrain, Mr David Howell, the United Kingdom Secretary of State for Energy, said the West had an immense political commitment to reduce dependency on imported oil.

Addressing the Bahrain Society of Engineers during a brief visit to Gulf states, he said that one benefit from the Iran/Iraq war was that the consumers had been able to show the producers that they had profited from the lessons of 1973 and 1979.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

## Prices of canned beers set to rise

By Derek Harris  
Commercial Editor  
A rise in canned beer prices to the take-home trade, represented largely by the supermarkets, is expected to go through from many brewers this month, effectively adding 4p to large cans.

In most cases it means the first increase for a year. Prices charged to the take-home trade have been the target of increasing criticism from public house agents, who fear the brewers have been discriminating heavily in favour of the supermarkets in order to increase their individual market shares.

Mr Arnold Elliott, president of the National Union of Licensed Victuallers (NULV), the tenants' trade association, yesterday welcomed the price increases as a "responsible action" by the brewers. But he said it was "not enough".

He barely restored the balance between prices to the take-home trade and public house sector. Where, as prices to the supermarkets would hold for a year, those to the public houses would not necessarily do so, he said.

Allied Breweries is raising its canned beer prices and so is Whitbread, is believed to be considering increases next month.

The wholesale price rises represent increases of around 13 per cent.

Average beer prices in brewery-owned outlets rose by around 21 per cent in the year to last autumn, compared with 12.8 per cent in supermarkets and 10 per cent in clubs.

The rise was claimed by Mr Colin Mitchell, a leading drinks analyst at Buckmaster & Moore, the London brokers.

Mr Mitchell has been among those warning that such wide differences in pricing could jeopardise the Monopolies and Mergers Commission's investigation into the number of public house closures. It fears closures will increase this year despite the brewers' moves on prices to supermarkets.

Canned beer, largely sold through supermarkets, accounts for more than 10 per cent of total beer production.

Brewers could still continue to give supermarkets advantages such as low-price promotional offers and longer credit periods, Mr Mitchell has claimed that some brewers have in the past been sold as loss-leaders to supermarkets.

But Mr Mitchell has forecast that more brewery closures are likely, to reduce the imbalance between production and demand. He believes brewers will now offer fewer low-price promotions and less generous credit terms.

The NULV has already noticed some signs of a decline in specific demand. It has a growing belief in the trade that advantageous free trade deals, benefiting the clubs, are on the decline.

The brewers, faced with probable price increases in production over the next few months are under pressure to improve their individual market shares in the free trade.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

## Prices of canned beers set to rise

By Derek Harris  
Commercial Editor  
A rise in canned beer prices to the take-home trade, represented largely by the supermarkets, is expected to go through from many brewers this month, effectively adding 4p to large cans.

In most cases it means the first increase for a year. Prices charged to the take-home trade have been the target of increasing criticism from public house agents, who fear the brewers have been discriminating heavily in favour of the supermarkets in order to increase their individual market shares.

Mr Arnold Elliott, president of the National Union of Licensed Victuallers (NULV), the tenants' trade association, yesterday welcomed the price increases as a "responsible action" by the brewers. But he said it was "not enough".

He barely restored the balance between prices to the take-home trade and public house sector. Where, as prices to the supermarkets would hold for a year, those to the public houses would not necessarily do so, he said.

Allied Breweries is raising its canned beer prices and so is Whitbread, is believed to be considering increases next month.

The wholesale price rises represent increases of around 13 per cent.

Average beer prices in brewery-owned outlets rose by around 21 per cent in the year to last autumn, compared with 12.8 per cent in supermarkets and 10 per cent in clubs.

The rise was claimed by Mr Colin Mitchell, a leading drinks analyst at Buckmaster & Moore, the London brokers.

Mr Mitchell has been among those warning that such wide differences in pricing could jeopardise the Monopolies and Mergers Commission's investigation into the number of public house closures. It fears closures will increase this year despite the brewers' moves on prices to supermarkets.

Canned beer, largely sold through supermarkets, accounts for more than 10 per cent of total beer production.

Brewers could still continue to give supermarkets advantages such as low-price promotional offers and longer credit periods, Mr Mitchell has claimed that some brewers have in the past been sold as loss-leaders to supermarkets.

But Mr Mitchell has forecast that more brewery closures are likely, to reduce the imbalance between production and demand. He believes brewers will now offer fewer low-price promotions and less generous credit terms.

The NULV has already noticed some signs of a decline in specific demand. It has a growing belief in the trade that advantageous free trade deals, benefiting the clubs, are on the decline.

The brewers, faced with probable price increases in production over the next few months are under pressure to improve their individual market shares in the free trade.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

Mr Dirck de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Broader experience for engineers

From the Executive Secretary of the Council of Engineering Institutions

Sir, Your recent report ("Room at the top for engineers", December 21) on the professional backgrounds of those recently appointed chief executives in British industry disclosed that those with a sales and marketing background are most favoured while engineers do poorly by comparison.

It would be a cause for serious concern if these two routes to the top were to become mutually exclusive. They are certainly not regarded in that light in Germany, for example.

Many of the most able German engineers spend part of their working lives engaged in the commercial side of their firms' activity—particularly in marketing and sales. At the same time, the top management of German companies includes a much higher proportion of engineers than is common in the United Kingdom. The combination of engineering and commercial experience makes them widely employable in general management.

It seems unlikely that German industry adopts a policy of giving engineers commercial

experience solely to improve their career prospects. It is much more likely that they see advantage in having strong engineering representation in the highest reaches of management provided the engineers have previous commercial experience. They may also consider the other side of the same coin and conclude that the marketing of high technology products benefits from a direct involvement of engineers.

In the selection of very senior executives, personal qualities are of course as important as professional background and, in any case, the practice in one country may not be entirely relevant to another. However, the disparities in this matter between the United Kingdom and Germany seem striking enough to deserve further study.

Perhaps we should be working towards a situation in which more top executives describe their background as engineering and marketing rather than one or the other.

DENYS WOOD,  
Council of Engineering Institutions,  
2 Little Smith Street,  
London SW1P 3DL.

### Defending home industry

From Mr A. A. Benjamin  
Sir, Mr Boulter's letter (December 30) is an undignified plea for consumerism. He proposes that we could evolve a new "CAP" (from which Britain suffers agriculturally) for cars, if Britain and, indeed, Europe is not flooded with Japanese cars—and others due soon, apparently from Brazil and Eastern Europe. He sees Britain as a service economy and quotes Cobden to suggest that protectionism disturbs the peace.

Twenty years of protectionism by many industrialized countries has caused the obvious war that I can recall.

He omits some hard realism. Like the protectionism by the Japanese and many other countries, which has effectively excluded imports while they would make products in their own countries. Examples are numerous but cars, computers, telecommunications equipment and domestic electronics will do.

Like the fact that there is a real threat that their "service" industries will be colonized by overseas firms. The Japanese, for example, are based on a sound home manufacturing structure. An example is the strong advance by Japan and France in telecommunications, banking, international project management, information technology. Heaven forbid if consumerism becomes the dominant trading philosophy in Britain. What we need urgently is significant new investment in highly automated manufacturing to make products which are well designed and innovative and which we can sell

abroad. Furthermore, this investment should be made against a national industrial strategy reached with consensus by government and industry.

Our service industries in the past have prospered because of our manufacturing strength, not in spite of it. If we do not need car manufacturers, soon we shall not need steel, ships, turbines, aero engines, computers, electronics, etc.—they will always be "relatively" (this word cheaper elsewhere, because consumerism does not account for strategic capability, employment, technology spin-off and asset building within the nation).

Mr Boulter's letter reminds me of the real danger. This is in the concept that it is a buy or produce cheaper from a state-subsidized, protectionist government somewhere, then that is preferable to the development and rebuilding of our own industries. Rich investment trusts with their earnings coming from overseas do not have to pay the pensions of a sullen, cynical, largely unemployed British people, who will have no spare money to buy the cheaper imported consumerism Mr Boulter applauds.

Neither British nor European governments will then pay the concepts preached by Mr Boulter—they are too preoccupied generating the wealth to sustain and build the service industries of the future.

A. A. BENJAMIN,  
The Chequers,  
West End Lane,  
Pinner.

### Credit card surcharges

From Mr F. H. Aldous  
Sir, As a major petrol retailer, we question the principle behind the surcharges on credit card transactions currently being imposed by many petrol filling stations. It is doubtful whether this was the immediate intention of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, with which we, in content, disagree when recommending that credit card companies should abandon the "non-discrimination" clause in favour of allowing traders the right to fix a differential price for goods and services bought by credit card.

In the light of the fact that no decision has been reached on the commission's report, which is only now being discussed by the Office of Fair Trading, it is unfortunate that various petrol retailers, so-called "strangers" to opportunistic and supported by such organizations as the Motor Agents Association, are penalizing the motorist who pays for his petrol by credit card.

But why should a surcharge of 15p to 25p be introduced now when for years petrol filling stations have been accepting credit cards which account for an average 20 per cent to 25 per cent of revenue. After all, credit cards are an established and acceptable method of payment. It remains to be seen whether or not the commission's recommendations are implemented, but for the present it appears their report has provided the petrol retailer with yet another excuse for a price rise.

FREDRICK ALDOUS,  
Swan National Limited,  
London W4 4EH.

vice he or she should expect by right upon entering the forecourt.

It is hardly surprising that having taken the decision ourselves not to levy a surcharge, we have recorded an increase in volume sales: with new customers, in particular, coming from motorists refusing to pay the surcharge.



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## China Clays at the top

English China Clays' full-year pretax profits of £40.5m were 22 per cent up on last time, but, nevertheless, point to a sharp decline in the second half. Taking the year as a whole, china clay output, still the backbone of the company, held up better than expected but still fell by about 1.4m tonnes to 2.66m. Pretax profits in this division rose by 8.6 per cent to £25.5m, helped by price increases of around 20 per cent at the beginning of the year and an unusually good September.

But it was the company's other activities which were vital. Quarries pushed up profits by 41 per cent to £9.9m; building, recovering from the setbacks of 1979, contributed £1.6m against £196,000; and transport and services went up by 26 per cent to £3.4m. Building's figures are deceptive because most of the

performance from United Kingdom rentals—still far and away the major source of profit. Pre-interest profits were 3 per cent up at £12.6m but adding back £3.5m exceptional rationalization costs to the previous year gives a truer picture.

Overseas rental did a little better in the first half because of the Rentacolor acquisitions but camping and leisure turned round to losses and is being slimmed. Group pretax profits for the first half ran out at £7.4m against £5.5m (after exceptional costs).

After racing ahead to 99p the shares closed only 2p higher after hours at 92p where the yield on a maintained dividend is 6.7 per cent. The second half will remain difficult and ERG is still having problems getting enough videos to rent out. But the potential of this market plus the interest rate factor make a good case for the shares in the longer term.

**No investor has lost money since the State Building Society collapse in the 1950s, but the movement's reputation for being as safe as houses has been tarnished in the past five years by the unfolding scandals at the Wakefield Building Society and the Grays Building Society. The affair at the Alfrington Building Society, currently under police investigation, will be modest by comparison, but arguably more worrying.**

After the major defalcations unearthed at the Grays and the subsequent remedial action proposed by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, the accountancy profession and Whitehall, it is, at first glance, unthinkable that within two years of the investigation of the Grays, another building society should apparently be finding skeletons in the cupboard.

But in fact the insistence of the Registrar for better internal controls which he has backed by visits to all societies with assets between £2m-£25m and the new guidelines proposed by the accountancy bodies at the end of last year, were designed to expose (and remedy) inefficiencies, or worse.

However, although the movement has certainly proved, yet again, that it can rescue its own, the Government's decision to back away from promised legislation for societies is to be regretted. Greater controls to back up the work of the Registrar and the accountants would still not come amiss.

### Hickson & Welch

#### Under pressure

ICI is temporarily losing money and Fisons' dividend is in peril. So the modest fall in pretax profits from £8m to £6.5m in the year to last September but maintained dividend from Hickson & Welch brought a sigh of relief to the sector. The shares hardened up to 141p.

But the point about Hickson is not that it is weathering recession rather well, but that this highly rated chemical group with interests in timber preserving and building materials is now ex-growth. Hickson is not in fact coping with the downturn. In the first half of last year pretax profits went ahead by 15.5 per cent to £4.4m, so it only made £2.1m in the second six months. Research and termination costs are a modest £393,000 but the figure will obviously swell if trade refuses to pick up and at present the group is making full use of the Government subsidy for short time working. It has however been quick to suspend capital spending and cut borrowing. But the price was a leap in tax from £437,000 to £3.2m as capital allowances disappeared, and earnings a share more than halved to 17p.

Hickson itself sees no end to recession for at least six months and its two big problems, a strong pound and expensive gas, are not likely to go away. The fear must be that Hickson will have lost important markets by the time business eventually picks up.

Timber preserving has probably raised its share of total profits to half, but pretax profits are still falling, and the pretax trend since the 1976-77 peak of £10.1m speaks for itself. There are better returns than its 7.6 per cent yield from more interesting chemical companies.

## The man who shook Wall Street

Joe Granville likes to compare his stock market analysis with the way scientists predict earthquakes. But now a dozen Wall Street firms are wondering whether Mr Granville predicts financial earthquakes or causes them.

On Tuesday the market had looked unstoppable with the Dow Jones average soaring through the 1,000 barrier. Then at one stage on Wednesday it was down 31 points from Tuesday's close and ended the day down 23.80 points, at 980.89.

The man who was solely responsible for the carnage was Joseph Granville. Acting on his instructions 30 telephone orders were sent out on Tuesday night to 2 o'clock on Wednesday morning calling his 3,000 clients with a message as blunt as it was simple: "Sell everything."

They were the lucky ones. They had paid at least \$500 a year to be members of the Florida-based financial advisory firm Warning System. Mr Granville has 10,000 other clients who learnt to their cost what happens when you pay Mr Granville only \$250.

### Newsletter

For that money they receive a weekly newsletter and many of them would have just been given a copy of the same time that privileged Early Warning System members were preparing to torpedo the market on Mr Granville's updated advice.

"Do some aggressive buying," the 57-year-old millionaire wrote confidently. "The market is signalling a sharp upward swing, and most groups look set to respond vigorously."

"The most important thing to know here is that most stocks are set to advance and the probability states that regardless of what you buy right here, it should be higher several weeks from now."

Mr Granville allowed his letter to go to press last Friday. Yesterday he was unrepentant in explaining what had happened.

"When we wrote the letter the Dow closed (on Friday) at 963.99 and we wrote that right here, it should be higher several weeks from now," he told the *Wall Street Journal*. "Well, the intraday high on Tuesday was 1013.13, and you can't call them any better than that. But the market left absolutely no doubt on Tuesday that it was giving us a sell signal."

### Accuracy

Over the past few years Mr Granville's system of technical analysis has brought him a national reputation for accuracy in predicting the market. He has made his money by selling that advice.

He enhances his reputation by flying all over the country from his home in Holly Hill, Florida, to give lectures accompanied by flamboyant displays of showmanship — to investment groups. Last year he covered 5,000 miles a week.

His basic message is that "the market always tells you where it is going." During particularly energetic performances he has been known to burst on to the stage carrying a large balloon and shouting to his audience: "How high is the market going? Be it released, the balloon to illustrate his point, possibly following up with a song and dance routine.

There is no doubt that Mr Granville has a large following. He has been called "the Christened" Granville's groupies" by some Wall Street dealers — and that his advice in recent years has more often been right than wrong.

But the question remains: does Joe Granville predict the effect or cause it? He admits he has been "right" but "with a growing following, some degree of self-fulfilling prophecy is inescapable," he says.

Nigel Nelson

## Ivor Davis Shadows on the silver screen

Hollywood

It seemed like a winner. Superstar Barbra Streisand in a musical with story by Isaac Bashevis Singer, the Nobel prize winner. Ms Streisand was even going to direct herself. They were all ready to go with a budget of around \$12m — then the studio pulled the plug.

Yentl is a picture which unless alternative financing can be found will not now be made. The disintegration of a project starring the world's number one box office female star would seem surprising if it were not that it came at the end of a year — which was one of the worst for Hollywood in living memory.

First, an expensive actors' strike crippled the studios for weeks and cost them millions of dollars. But even more important 1980 may well go down in film history as the year of the big flops culminating in the debacle over *Heaven's Gate*, a period western by Michael Cimino, director of the Oscar winning *Deer Hunter*. His epic turned out to be 3½ hours of self-indulgence and Cimino is now reediting it in an attempt to salvage something.

But his film was only the worst example in a long list of duds. Coming closely behind was Steven Spielberg's 1941. The director of *Jaws* and *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* persuaded Universal Pictures to give him an unlimited budget for a spoof movie on the anti-Japanese hysteria on the West Coast after Pearl Harbour. The resulting film was a noisy, chaotic undisciplined disaster.

Then there was *The Blues Brothers*, a picture directed by another young "genius", John Landis, whose earlier *Animal House* had taken in over \$100m. Landis was given a free hand and \$55m to try to repeat his earlier success. The picture was a flop, and Landis is now out of Hollywood.

A whole spate of new pictures made their appearance at the end of 1980 as Hollywood rushed out its offerings for Oscar consideration. Some of them have joined the list of over-inflated productions.

*The Jazz Singer*, which cost \$15m and with pop singer Neil Diamond making his screen debut opposite Laurence Olivier in an updated version of the first talking picture, the 1927 silent classic, is artistically a disappointment, though it seems that the popularity of Diamond's music is rescuing it at the box office.

Despite the poor reviews EMI says that the film is doing brisk business and that in the

first 17 days in some 228 cinemas in North America it grossed \$8.5m. By mid-February it will be seen in more than 300 cinemas and after a royal premiere in London on January 29, it will open in Britain.

Robert Altman's \$30m *Popeye* musical, an unlikely liaison between Paramount studios and Walt Disney Pictures, starring Robin Williams, the television comedian, has made its appearance with unmemorable music and sometimes incoherent dialogue. Early box office returns, however, indicate the film is doing good business.

which says if you have the right star, the right director and a big budget you can't miss — never mind the script.

It was the reasoning behind the *Jazz Singer*, 1941, *When Time Ran Out*, starring Paul Newman and Jacqueline Bisset, and *Xanadu*, a musical featuring Olivia Newton John and Gene Kelly. And it is a formula that just is not working.

Mr Norbert Auerbach, newly appointed president of United Artists, argues that overspending on films like his company's (*Heaven's Gate*) is not an aberration but symptomatic of an industry-wide ailment: "We

the overseas sales. That kind of arrangement is becoming more common in Hollywood when a studio wants to spread the risk factor.

In some cases film producers have covered their budget even before the first day of filming. They simply get guarantees from various countries, as well as guarantees for the sale of the finished product to television and cable companies. Mr Charles Powell, a marketing specialist, blames overblown marketing budgets for the high costs of films. He says that studios spend millions selling a film often in a vain effort to protect their huge investments. The Motion Picture Association of America reports that the average cost of making a picture today is \$6.5m — while the average amount spent on promoting a film is \$5.5m.

"Many companies spend more on marketing than making films," Mr Powell says. He adds: "Television commercials are bleeding us to death. Studios are paying \$100,000 for a 30-second television spot — it's crazy. What ever happened to the old style publicity stunts where you got free space?"

Mr Auerbach of Box Office points out that another aggravating factor is the enormous salaries demanded and paid to big stars. "These days having a star in your film doesn't necessarily guarantee success. Audiences won't go to see a star if the film isn't popular," he says.

Christopher Reeve, the silver screen's "Superman", is one star who opposes the over-inflated salaries and the practices which he preaches. He recently took a large salary cut to star in the low budget romantic film *Someone in Time*.

"There is something terribly wrong with the film business," he says, "when on one hand you see millions thrown away on awful movies, and on the other someone like David Lean, who has never made a bad picture, can't raise enough money to make his next film *Murphy's Eye*."

Paul Monash, producer of one of Hollywood's most successful pictures, *Caddyshack* and the *Sundance Kid*, does not, however, believe that Hollywood has lost its touch or is heading for complete disaster.

"I think we're fighting it a bit better, more than ever before. I'm amazed we do survive with competition from cable TV, electronic games and everything else vying for the theatre going public. Today it's just a whole different economic ballgame."

## Hollywood hopes in 1981 to avoid the mistakes which made last year one of the worst ever experienced by its film industry

Little wonder then that the studios are running scared. According to the trade paper *Daily Variety*, box office receipts for last summer's season were down 25 per cent, which may not sound like much, but as Mr Alexander, a studio editor of the influential Hollywood journal *Box Office* points out, "With an inflation rate of 13 per cent that's the equivalent of being down 151 per cent on 1979's grosses."

Everywhere in the film industry a great deal of head scratching is going on as well as a slightly hysterical attempt to apportion blame. First to fall will undoubtedly be the director, the young genius of the moment, who makes one of the largest portfolios of films, either playing or in the works at any given time, which can pay the rent for the unsuccessful pictures.

This year most films are again being made in the tradition of the 1930s — several studios are now making pictures. In some cases independent producers get their own funding but are given financial guarantees from a major studio which will then buy the film from the producer for an agreed amount.

"In most cases the majors put their own money on the line," says *Box Office's* Mr Auerbach. As in the case of *Popeye*, Paramount and Disney shared the cost in a deal that gave Paramount the box office take from North America and Disney

are going to have to deal with that particular problem just as everybody else should, otherwise we're going to have a catastrophic situation in our industry."

As a result the big Hollywood studios intend to keep a tight financial rein in 1981. But even the film factories that have suffered the biggest losses from pictures — like Universal Studios — have not gone out of business. They have been able to cushion flops because of large portfolios of films, either playing or in the works at any given time, which can pay the rent for the unsuccessful pictures.

This year most films are again being made in the tradition of the 1930s — several studios are now making pictures. In some cases independent producers get their own funding but are given financial guarantees from a major studio which will then buy the film from the producer for an agreed amount.

"In most cases the majors put their own money on the line," says *Box Office's* Mr Auerbach. As in the case of *Popeye*, Paramount and Disney shared the cost in a deal that gave Paramount the box office take from North America and Disney

### Technology

## How Ireland is finding fresh use for its peat bogs

Ireland, with the help of the European Economic Community, is pioneering the development of biomass — renewable, short-generation trees — as an energy source for the future.

Bord na Mona (the Irish Peat Development Authority) and the National Board for Science and Technology are co-operating in an £17m (£5.5m) demonstration project. The EEC is providing 40 per cent of the money.

Mr Jeremiah Healy, land development manager for Bord na Mona, says that 1,000 acres are in production. Research began in 1975 and the trees were planted in 1977.

The experiment — from which Mr Healy says it is hoped to have enough information by the end of the year — is divided between conifers, which would have to be replanted after harvesting, and hardwood trees, which can be "copied", or grown like grass, at intervals.

The Electricity Supply Board, another public agency, is also involved. It is converting a power plant in the far-western

region of Connemara to run on biomass. The peat board's participation can be explained by the fact that Ireland's expanses of peat bogs have been judged to be excellent places to grow biomass — once the peat has been removed. Ireland has three million acres of bogs, but expects to exhaust this resource by the year 2020.

Mr Healy says that a harvesting machine for biomass now exists "on paper" and should be ready in 1981, two years before the first crop is due. Mr Frank Lunny, a consultant working for the National Board for Science and Technology, believes that biomass could eventually supply a quarter of Ireland's energy needs. He says that the country's heavy rainfall and long frost-free season are points in its favour.

Mr Lunny says that the Irish experiment is attracting attention from abroad, and cites Sweden and Finland as two examples. In the United States, he adds, there is interest in

making more efficient use of the wood from natural forests. The city of Burlington, Vermont, is generating electricity from wood, he says.

Mr Lunny has doubts about the conifer biomass. He likes the hardwood variety, because of its ability to regrow after being cut to the stump. "You can cut these stumps again after four years and new sprouts will come. It is thought that you can go on doing that for 30 years — seven crops — before the roots lose their vigour and you have to replant."

As for the output, Mr Lunny says that it "appears that it is not over-optimistic" to hope for a yield of 10 tonnes of dry matter for each acre a year. That figure corresponds to about 3 tonnes of oil.

Only 5 per cent of Ireland's land is forested, against an average of 20 per cent for EEC countries as a whole. "We are the least wooded country in the EEC," Mr Lunny says.

He believes that large tracts of poor agricultural land in counties Leitrim, Mayo, Clare and Kerry would be "ideal" for the development of biomass. To this would be added bogland as it becomes available.

He says that a peat bog produces four times as much energy as a piece of land of the same size devoted to biomass. But whereas biomass goes on

forever peat can only be used once. Mr Lunny says that biomass, with its lower sulphur content, involves much less air pollution than coal. The job of the grower is also easier than it would be if he were cultivating other crops.

All the grower has to think about is volume. Worries about such things as protein content can be left to the food farmer. Mr Healy and Mr Lunny are cautious men, more inclined to the technical than the lyrical. Indeed, Mr Healy says, a large part of his job is to "dampen down this enthusiasm" that has been shown by less realistic laymen.

Mr Lunny points out that no new energy source is going to provide the whole answer to any country's problems. Each will just have to be added to the mix of alternatives.

The future of biomass, he says, will also depend on "a lot of political decisions". For example, it has not even been determined yet what agency will be responsible for its development in Ireland.

But Mr Lunny is hopeful, both about the prospects for biomass and Ireland's role in developing it. "I think that if we play our cards right we could be the lead country in biomass production."

Robert O'Connor

## Business Diary: On account of Dr Johnson

Oxford To the University, at the invitation of William Hyde. I called on him not at his college (he is a fellow of Linacre) but at Pembroke, one of his other 26.

Hyde is secretary to the Oxford University Chest (the university's kitty) and he is also president of the Institute of Cost and Management Accountants.

I found him at Pembroke, chairing a symposium he had set up to bring together day-to-day practitioners of management accounting and ICMA members who hold chairs of accountancy. I was delighted to see that two of the academics were called Risk and Tricker.

Hyde is known to the City for a spell as a director of Schroders and as author of the Hyde Guidelines prepared by the Accounting Standards Committee.

Pembroke is not only known, but interesting to me as the college of Dr Johnson, although it must be said that Dr Johnson was not too interested in accounting.

Boswell once told him of a lady who refused to keep family accounts for her husband since she did not go over the budget.

"Sir," said the doctor, "it is fit that she should keep an account, because her husband wishes it: but I do not see its use."

Having said hello to Hyde as he and his accountants (all

of them men) went into conclave, I paid my respects to the bursar of Pembroke, Colin Leach.

Leach has an office on the first floor, immediately above the porter's lodge and immediately below "Dr Johnson's room". I found him working on a computerized cash flow projection for Pembroke, its first.

He is the man for the job, for until two years ago he was Managing Director of Ariel, the Accepting Houses' computerized share-dealing alternative to the Stock Exchange.

Within a week of starting a new job Leach was rung by an Oxford friend and asked if he knew that the Pembroke bursarship was going. He didn't, and as it was closing day for applications, he got in touch right away and piped more than 100 others to the post.

What, I asked Leach, was the attraction of Oxford over the City? "Very high intelligence in a large number of people one meets and works with," he replied, "and a far less, I think, grasping attitude to life. I found as I worked in the City I more and more wanted to be here."

How, after 22 years in the City, did he invest the college's cash?

"Having regard, always, as I must do, to short-term cash requirements, I will invest in equities where I think there are either long-term growth, or which I like to think is my own

speciality, invest in bombed-out recovery stocks."

At my insistence Leach tipped Courtaulds and Chubb as two examples. Ariel, whose future, because they were both at 20,000 shares, both at 340p, but at the wrong time."

A former classics don at Brasenose, Leach is now bringing out with the American poet James Michie a new edition of Euripides' play *Helen*.

It was to the theatre, with a tragedy called *Irene*, that Dr Johnson looked after leaving Pembroke without a degree in 1731. His father's book-selling business was failing and so Johnson had to go.

I took up the theme of theatre over lunch in hall with Hyde, because Oxford's Playhouse is one of the university assets administered by the Chest. He told me that the future of the Playhouse, like that of Ariel, was under review. It is losing about £50,000 a year and the

Time after time on Ariel

Wallchart

WHO SAYS THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT INTERESTED IN ENCOURAGING SMALL BUSINESSES?

I KNOW OF AT LEAST FIVE MAJOR COMPANIES THAT HAVE BECOME SMALL BUSINESSES IN THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS!

Governance and the Management Accountant

Shaw has both feet planted firmly in his native heather, one as Professor of Accountancy at the University of Glasgow and the other in Edinburgh as senior partner in the office there of Deloitte, Haskins & Sells.

He said that his was about the only one of the 40 or so accountancy chairs in the country which required the incumbent to practice what he preached, and this was one reason why the professors and the practitioners were so often at odds.

"Anybody who tries to build a bridge gets shot at by chaps from both sides," he told me.

The college's head porter, John Jefferson, showed me Dr Johnson's room, now occupied by a Mr J. W. Hall, and added that Mr Hall's "father was at Pembroke, too, strangely enough, but not in that room."

I found one member of the college who was still showing visitors to the wrong room and another who had not long got it right. "I must have shown dozens of Americans the wrong place," he said.

I would like to think that Pembroke will go on showing Americans the wrong Dr Johnson's room. Did not the doctor himself say of them: "Sir, they are a race of convicts and ought to be thankful for anything we allow them, short of hanging?"

Ross Davies

## JESSUPS

Main Dealers for Vauxhall, Bedford, Opel and Ford, Leasing Specialists and Commercial Vehicle Body Builders

	Year to 31st August	
	1980	1979
	£000s	£000s
Turnover	31,685	30,000
(Loss)/Profit before tax	(250)	830
Dividend per share	2p	3p
Net Assets per share	94p	103p

\* Loss indicates combination of adverse factors in most difficult year.

\* Ford's market dominance maintained and Group improved sales. Vauxhall and Bedford ranges comprehensive and attractive.

\* Losses on leasing follow conservative valuation of fleet and high interest rates.

\* Although an early return to past profit levels cannot be anticipated, dividend policy demonstrates good long-term prospect.

Copies of Report and Accounts are available from the Secretary, Jessups (Holdings) Limited, London Road, Romford, Essex RM7 9QS. Telephone: Romford 22311

VAUXHALL • BEDFORD • OPEL • FORD



## FINANCIAL NEWS

## Stock markets

## Nervous selling gives way to firmer tone

The appearance of bargain hunters among oils and electricals enabled the market to attempt a long-awaited rally yesterday despite further gloomy news from home and abroad.

The session again started on a shaky note, with dealers fearing further heavy selling on the London market following the "sell everything" call on Wall Street the previous night which saw the Dow Jones tumble 23.90.

In addition, dealers remained concerned over the latest threat of industrial action by the public-sector workers which presented a direct threat to the Government's economic policy.

As a result, the index was showing a net loss of 5.1 by 11 am as nervous selling continued. However, with the new account drawing to a close, jobbers noted one or two bargain hunters coming in for new rally and quite a bit of bearishness, particularly among electricals and oils.

The firm tone continued throughout the afternoon and, despite further falls in the resumption of trading on Wall Street, the FT index closed only 0.9 off at 459.3.

Gold, too, staged a small rally but prices closed generally lower on the day. In London, £1 recovered £2 while in shorts losses of £3 were registered.

The new top Treasury 12½ per cent 1999 "B" not off to a slow start as expected, and closed with £1 discount over the opening £20 partly paid price.

Jobbers still remain pessimistic in the short term with too little money chasing too much stock ahead of next week's cash calls.

Leading industrialists made up most of the heavy after a dull start, with most closing just a penny or two below overnight levels. Fisons, rising 2p to 183p, continued to rally after earlier weakness.

Other notable gains were in plants resulting in the loss of 1,100 jobs. But elsewhere falls

were seen in ICI 2p to 312p, Beechams 1p to 169p, Glaxo 3p to 448p, Courtaulds 1p to 52p, Hawker Siddeley 5p to 236p and GKN 3p to 146p.

Jobs in electricals described conditions as "extremely volatile" with no definite pattern after earlier fears of defence cuts. But persistent bargain hunting by the institutions left most shares off the bottom at the close. GEC closed only 2p lower at 558p.

Expect news next week of a substantial new United States account for advertising agency G. Gross. Mr Bob Gross, chief executive, who travels to the United States soon, said: "I can say nothing now, but it is a substantial account."

The shares closed last night, unchanged at 59p, after touching 59p at one stage in the past year.

after 531p, Rascal 2p to 311p, after 309p, Ferranti shed 5p to 435p and STC 10p to 429p, although Plessey managed a 2p rise on the day at 258p. These shares recovered 4p to 305p.

Shares covered today, but ICI shed 6p to 61p as 500,000 shares went through the market at 59p on the back of the gloomy annual report.

Nevertheless, the recovery did not include most of the second-line electricals, which continued to slide. Unilever dipped 10p to 274p, Farnell 20p to 359p and Mulholland, reporting next week, 4p to 74p.

Electronic Rentals climbed 7p to 37p, following interim figures, but faded in after-hours trading to close at 32p, a net rise of 2p on the day.

Oils displayed a better tone, despite the continuing weakness on Wall St, helped by quite a bit of bear closing ahead of the new account on Monday. Among the majors, BP hardened 5p to 402p, Shell a similar amount to 452p, Lanco 5p to 705p and Buremah 3p to 188p. Tricentral continued to celebrate its latest drilling report from block 211/18, rising 4p to 356p, although Ultramar resisted the trend, slipping 2p to 493p.

Among second-line electricals, speculative attention lifted NCC Energy 5p to 83p, while Sun Oil maintained its recent strong run 10p dearer at 490p. However, recent high-fliers Double Eagle and Warrick Resources both tumbled 2p to 180p respectively.

The full-year figures from English China Clays were better than expected and the shares rebounded 5p to 90p. Favourable trading statements

were also worth 2p on Peter Black at 103p, Midland Construction 3p to 35p, Birmingham Pallet 3p to 51p and Hickson & Welch 1p to 14p.

The disappointing figures slipped 1p from RFD at 351p, 3p from Radley Fashion at 25p, 4p from John Waddington at 99p, 7p from Plessey at 187p and 3p from Sidlaw Industries at 101p.

Still reeling from recent heavy losses, ERF slipped 3p to 43p as profit taking saw Baker's Household Stores retreat 8p to 106p. But McCord's improved 1p to 113p.

News that the board meeting to discuss the interim dividend at MZ Holdings had been cancelled saw the shares plunge 20p to 250p, as rumours of a rights issue knocked 11p from Norcor at 74p. Shares of F. Pratt dipped another 2p in the wake of a factory closure earlier this week.

Shares of Jamaica Sugar closed 4p lower at 21p, on the announcement that Mr Nicholas de Savary had mapped out 1.6m shares at 15p giving him 40 per cent of the equity.

Meanwhile, speculative attention lifted Hasbani Properties 7p to 120p, Texta-Consultants 3p to 52p, J. Bibby 10p to 232p, Minigrip 8p to 125p, and News International 5p to 108p.

and Dewy 5p to 200p. Brent Walker enjoyed a 1p rise at 80p, following favourable press comment.

Adhes continued to suffer on the weak bullion prices with falls in Hartbeest 5p to 57p, 9p to 91p, and Western Deep 2 5/16 to 226 7/16. In mining financials, Consolidated Gold Fields hardened 1p to 501p.

Brokers Rowe & Pimman are reported to have picked up 200,000 this week in order to support the price following the appearance of a large seller.

With the smell of burnt fingers over Double Eagle hanging in the air, it has surprised few that the new oil exploration stock Pennington Resources, launched by Lazard Brothers, still languishes at a discount to the 50p offer price. Lazard's "honourable" "bear" of the "risks" warning cannot have helped. However, speculators reckon it the cheapest oil stock around.

Equity turnover on January 7 was 105.61m (£529 bar) was the most active stock, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were GEC, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Shell, Bowater, BP, English China Clays, Burmah, Premier, Allied, First Castle Securities, Grand Metropolitan Hotels, Marks and Spencer, and Plessey.

Traded options had a better day with 1,036 contracts, RTZ and BP saw most trade with 222 and 220 contracts respectively. Lanco was busy with 111.

Traditional options were busy with yesterday being declaration day. Calls were arranged in Chinese 5 per cent 1913 stock in the wake of recent developments; and in May and Hassell at 91 and Howard Tenney at 75. A put was done in GUS at 2p.

## Property fall brings setback at FNFC

By Our Financial Staff

The First National Finance Corporation's six-year struggle to return to business on its own two feet received a setback in the year to October 31, 1980, with falling property prices, and higher interest rates.

The lending and property division made a loss in the region of £750,000. Group pre-tax profit for the year fell to £7.6m against £21.6m the previous year. But a long wait with the Island Revenue resulted in a £12.4m tax credit. No dividends have been paid since November, 1974.

FNFC now owes the lifeboat of banks which still supports it £225.5m. Other debts total £23.7m. The deficit on shareholder's funds fell from £38m to £29m at October 31. Interest paid on the income, deferred and subordinated loans in 1979-80 totalled £22.1m, and another £15m or so was paid out on the lifeboat's £107.8m direct loan to the company.

The last accounts were thought to have seen the last damage inflicted by Videomaster but estimates were revised as a poor selling season caused an even sharper decline. Stocks have now been written down to nil and all expenses have been covered for the year to April.

Videomaster, acquired from reversionary for £700,000, has over the last two years piled up losses of about £6m.

The remains of Videomaster have now been transferred to Subbuteo sports games, a United Kingdom subsidiary, under the control of its managing director, Mr Christopher Bowles.

Mr Dyer is making no forecasts at this stage. Provisions of £750,000 for interest in the first half of this year were included in the 1979-80 figures.

## John Waddington hopeful after £1m interim loss

By Margaret Pagano

After a "nightmare" two years, John Waddington believes that the worst may be over. Losses at the Leeds-based packaging and games group climbed from £418,000 to £1,024,000. A profit is expected for the year to October 31, 1980, with falling property prices, and higher interest rates.

The group is still reeling from its disastrous entry into the electronic games market. The latest results cover a loss of £2.2m, against £2.9m last time, from Waddington Video-master; a loss of £810,000 from its American subsidiary, House of Games Inc; but obscures a pretax profit of £12.3m from packaging, printing and games from the home market. Borrowings total £5.4m representing 32 per cent gearing.

The last accounts were thought to have seen the last damage inflicted by Videomaster but estimates were revised as a poor selling season caused an even sharper decline. Stocks have now been written down to nil and all expenses have been covered for the year to April.

Videomaster, acquired from reversionary for £700,000, has over the last two years piled up losses of about £6m.

The remains of Videomaster have now been transferred to Subbuteo sports games, a United Kingdom subsidiary, under the control of its managing director, Mr Christopher Bowles.

Mr Dyer is making no forecasts at this stage. Provisions of £750,000 for interest in the first half of this year were included in the 1979-80 figures.



Mr Victor Watson, chairman of John Waddington.

the last year and these continue. Although profits are expected for the second half, there will be a loss for the full year, he said.

Waddington's United States games concern, which imported electronic games from the Far East, showed profits last year of £280,000 on sales of £2.5m. Despite good order books, by June this year customers had cancelled orders and the overall American market slipped drastically. On total sales for electronic games in the United States market in 1979 of \$500m, sales for 1980 had been estimated in the region of \$700m. This had in fact fallen to \$400m and Waddington was as badly affected as other distributors.

Mr Victor Watson, chairman, said that after the reduction in these two businesses the group will consist two thirds of packaging and printing activities, the balance from games and playing cards.

## Latest results

Company	Sales	Profit	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
£m	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
ICI	3,513.39	0.08(0.007)	8.16(3)	1.54(1.7)	1/5	2.5(3.5)
Birmingham Pallet	1,115.83	1.35(1.32)	3.8(2.7)	1.17(1.17)	26/2	4.3(1)
Electronic Rentals	50,186.3	7.42(5.3)	2.16(1.4)	1.5(1.5)	16/2	2.15(1.45)
First Nat Finance	99,318.5	7.61(2.6)	2.16(1.4)	1.5(1.5)	16/2	2.15(1.45)
N. Midland	24,455.78	0.4(0.26)	14.68(8.49)	4.5(4.0)	6/3	6.5(4.82)
Plessey	12,711.7	4.6(3.2)	32.8(21.5)	0.13(0.09)	1/5	4.3(7)
Radley Fashion	5,536.17	0.37(0.31)	1.4(0.8)	1.5(1.5)	16/3	3.0(6.7)
RFD	13,621.13	0.13(0.07)	2.22(1.33)	1.01(0.1)	13/2	2.2(2.5)
Sidlaw	14,150.0	1.15(1.97)	1.02(0.42)	2.4(2.22)	1/5	2.5(3.5)
Stead & Simpson	13,171.28	1.02(0.42)	1.02(0.42)	1.02(0.42)	1/5	2.5(3.5)
John Waddington	33,051.30	1.02(0.42)	1.02(0.42)	1.02(0.42)	1/5	2.5(3.5)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pension shares. Earnings are shown as a gross basis. To obtain gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax.

\* Loss.

## London casinos boost Pleasurama

By Our Financial Staff

Higher pretax profits from Pleasurama, the leisure and gaming group, reflect the first full-year contributions from both its London casinos, the Casanova and Ritz clubs, and its overseas activities.

Pleasurama made a 25 per cent stake in both clubs and Mecca Sportsman, a subsidiary of Grand Metropolitan, holds the balance. The clubs turned in profits for the year to September of £2,090.

The final gross dividend of 6.4p makes a total payment for the year of 9.2p, compared with 6.8p last time. Earnings per share have risen to 33.3p against 21.5p.

The result of the appeal next month which has been brought by the Coral Leisure group against the closure of four of its London clubs is expected to affect trading in London. If the appeal is lost, Pleasurama is in a position to benefit.

Trading at both clubs is satisfactory and profits have covered costs. Mr George Martin, the chief executive, said yesterday. The recession, however, has had more effect on London clubs than other parts of the country.

Record Midway Co. Board says that it cannot unreservedly recommend Baker's 3p cash offer to its shareholders.

Mr Nicholas de Savary has acquired from Mr Peter Lando 700,000 shares in the company, valued at £1.4m. The acquisition is part of a larger plan to acquire 300,000 ordinary shares in an aggregate of 49 per cent. An offer under rule 34 will be made as soon as possible.

Exp-o-Tel Group has acquired from Claverley company control of the theatre booking and travel agents. Both Exp-o-Tel and Claverley are private companies and the consideration paid for Keith Frowse shares is not being revealed.

Peter Black Holdings: In half-year to October 31, sales were £16.7m (£15.82m). Profit before tax, £1.36m (£1.32m). Earnings per share, 2.2p (2.1p). Dividend will be increased to 1.54p per share net (1.47p).

North Midland Construction: Dividend 2.15p (1.45p) for year to August 31. Turnover £7,480m (£5.7m). Pretax profit £60,000 (£24,000). EPS 14.68p (8.49p).

Jeans (Holdings): Mr. Alan Jefferies, Chairman, reported that the company had shown a small profit in the first quarter of the current year. However, no real turn-around in trading conditions could be anticipated before the autumn of 1981 and company could not, therefore, expect too much for their year which ends on 31 August.

Birmingham Pallet Group: Turnover for year to October 31 £13.66m (£13.39m). Pretax profit £1.36m (£1.32m). EPS 5.3p (4.3p). Dividend 2.57p (5p) gross. Straits Oil: Mechanical problems have been overcome at Woodlands and the well is drilling ahead at 8,075 feet. Footage since the last report is 33ft. High gas readings with oil traces in the mud core have been encountered.

Arthur Lee and Sons has acquired from Aurora Holdings the bright steel stockholding depots of Osborn Steel Stockholders at Slough and the well is drilling ahead at 8,075 feet. Footage since the last report is 33ft. High gas readings with oil traces in the mud core have been encountered.

Consolidated Gold Fields: De Beers and Anglo American Corp of South Africa have acquired an interest in an additional 50,000 shares of the company, valued at £2.8m, in its largest transaction to date. Property has been sold its recently completed industrial development on the site of the former Rye House Colliery in a nationalised industry pension fund for £2m. The buildings are occupied by Group's two new directors, Mr. John Waddington and Mr. Richard Bennett, who have been appointed to the board of the company.

Metrolax (Holdings) has acquired Interfax Sales, at Chislehurst, Kent.

## Briefly

Record Midway Co. Board says that it cannot unreservedly recommend Baker's 3p cash offer to its shareholders.

Mr Nicholas de Savary has acquired from Mr Peter Lando 700,000 shares in the company, valued at £1.4m. The acquisition is part of a larger plan to acquire 300,000 ordinary shares in an aggregate of 49 per cent. An offer under rule 34 will be made as soon as possible.

Exp-o-Tel Group has acquired from Claverley company control of the theatre booking and travel agents. Both Exp-o-Tel and Claverley are private companies and the consideration paid for Keith Frowse shares is not being revealed.

Peter Black Holdings: In half-year to October 31, sales were £16.7m (£15.82m). Profit before tax, £1.36m (£1.32m). Earnings per share, 2.2p (2.1p). Dividend will be increased to 1.54p per share net (1.47p).

North Midland Construction: Dividend 2.15p (1.45p) for year to August 31. Turnover £7,480m (£5.7m). Pretax profit £60,000 (£24,000). EPS 14.68p (8.49p).

Jeans (Holdings): Mr. Alan Jefferies, Chairman, reported that the company had shown a small profit in the first quarter of the current year. However, no real turn-around in trading conditions could be anticipated before the autumn of 1981 and company could not, therefore, expect too much for their year which ends on 31 August.

Birmingham Pallet Group: Turnover for year to October 31 £13.66m (£13.39m). Pretax profit £1.36m (£1.32m). EPS 5.3p (4.3p). Dividend 2.57p (5p) gross. Straits Oil: Mechanical problems have been overcome at Woodlands and the well is drilling ahead at 8,075 feet. Footage since the last report is 33ft. High gas readings with oil traces in the mud core have been encountered.

Arthur Lee and Sons has acquired from Aurora Holdings the bright steel stockholding depots of Osborn Steel Stockholders at Slough and the well is drilling ahead at 8,075 feet. Footage since the last report is 33ft. High gas readings with oil traces in the mud core have been encountered.

Consolidated Gold Fields: De Beers and Anglo American Corp of South Africa have acquired an interest in an additional 50,000 shares of the company, valued at £2.8m, in its largest transaction to date. Property has been sold its recently completed industrial development on the site of the former Rye House Colliery in a nationalised industry pension fund for £2m. The buildings are occupied by Group's two new directors, Mr. John Waddington and Mr. Richard Bennett, who have been appointed to the board of the company.

Metrolax (Holdings) has acquired Interfax Sales, at Chislehurst, Kent.

## RFD Group down 54pc midway

Taxable profits of RFD Group fell 54 per cent to £373,000 on turnover of £13.62m against £13.16m for the six months to September 30. Interest took £388,000 against £203,000 but there were no reorganization costs this time, against £108,000 last year. The interim dividend is held at 1.14p gross.

While the board considers the results to be poor, it points out that the group has been compared with last year as a whole. Then the group made a loss of £434,000 on sales of £26.3m.

The specialist textile division is still suffering from price competition and has led to many reductions in selling prices, and to production levels well below capacity.

In contrast, the coatings division has turned in excellent results.

Sidlaw cuts payout after loss

A profit of £878,000 has been turned into a loss of £134,000 at Sidlaw Industries for the year to September 26. The dividend is cut from 9.6p gross to 4.25p.

An extraordinary charge of £411,000 against £258,000 was incurred in the year, and in addition a provision of £175,000 has been made.

The trading loss attributable to discontinued operations amounted to about £2m in the two years to September 1980. With some of these operations continuing into the current year, their impact on 1981 trading results cannot yet be fully quantified.

Radley Fashion loss for half year

With turnover at Radley Fashion Group dipping from £6.17m to £5.53m for the year to May 19, a pretax profit of £95,000 has turned into a pretax loss of £134,000 after bank and loan interest of £192,000 against £121,000. There is no final dividend, leaving the total at 2.14p gross against 6.24p.

Accounts for the United Kingdom companies in the first quarter.

St George's chairman steps down

By Philip Robinson

Mr Frank Armstrong is standing down as executive chairman of St George's Laundry (Worcester). His contract expired last year and he is currently negotiating to be non-executive chairman at £7,500 a year until 1986.

His duties as managing director have already been taken over by his nephew and board colleague, Mr Nigel Armstrong who now has a contract running until July 25, 1986 at a current annual salary of £17,500.

Board changes emerged yesterday in the official document detailing St George's £1.3m purchase of the laundry operations from the Provincial Group.

The document shows that two of the four laundry operations bought by St George's, Godalming and Bridgwater, made net loss of £2,000 each in 1979.

Even before shareholders have approved the deal, St George's has received an offer for part of the package, textile converters Dorington Sheetings. It is estimated that St George's could raise more than £400,000 from the sale of its own unwanted assets and those from Provincial which do not fit the group's plans.

half of the current year disclosed a small profit in spite of a fall in turnover and it is not thought that the results of the two small overseas subsidiaries will materially affect the figures.

Stock levels have been reduced. The board believes that it can produce an overall profit for the current year.

Minet Holdings down 17pc for nine months

Third quarter results from Minet Holdings, showing profits running 17 per cent down after nine months of the 1980/81 period, are expected to reflect the impact of high sterling and competitive market conditions in Lloyd's insurance broking.

At the beginning of the year Minet indicated that its ambition was to maintain profits at the level of the 1979/80 level of £8.4m. That now looks improbable, especially since the costs of a limited redundancy programme will be taken in the first quarter.

Minet Holdings, showing profits running 17 per cent down after nine months of the 1980/81 period, are expected to reflect the impact of high sterling and competitive market conditions in Lloyd's insurance broking.

At the beginning of the year Minet indicated that its ambition was to maintain profits at the level of the 1979/80 level of £8.4m. That now looks improbable, especially since the costs of a limited redundancy programme will be taken in the first quarter.

Minet Holdings, showing profits running 17 per cent down after nine months of the 1980/81 period, are expected to reflect the impact of high sterling and competitive market conditions in Lloyd's insurance broking.

At the beginning of the year Minet indicated that its ambition was to maintain profits at the level of the 1979/80 level of £8.4m. That now looks improbable, especially since the costs of a limited redundancy programme will be taken in the first quarter.

Minet Holdings, showing profits running 17 per cent down after nine months of the 1980/81 period, are expected to reflect the impact of high sterling and competitive market conditions in Lloyd's insurance broking.

At the beginning of the year Minet indicated that its ambition was to maintain profits at the level of the 1979/80 level of £8.4m. That now looks improbable, especially since the costs of a limited redundancy programme will be taken in the first quarter.

Minet Holdings, showing profits running 17 per cent down after nine months of the 1980/81 period, are expected to reflect the impact of high sterling and competitive market conditions in Lloyd's insurance broking.

At the beginning of the year Minet indicated that its ambition was to maintain profits at the level of the 1979/80 level of £8.4m. That now looks improbable, especially since the costs of a limited redundancy programme will be taken in the first quarter.

Minet Holdings, showing profits running 17 per cent down after nine months of the 1980/81 period, are expected to reflect the impact of high sterling and competitive market conditions in Lloyd's insurance broking.

At the beginning of the year Minet indicated that its ambition was to maintain profits at the level of the 1979/80 level of £8.4m. That now looks improbable, especially since the costs of a limited redundancy programme will be taken in the first quarter.

Minet Holdings, showing profits running 17 per cent down after nine months of the 1980/81 period, are expected to reflect the impact of high sterling and competitive market conditions in Lloyd's insurance broking.

At the beginning of the year Minet indicated that its ambition was to maintain profits at the level of the 1979/80 level of £8.4m. That now looks improbable, especially since the costs of a limited redundancy programme will be taken in the first quarter.

Minet Holdings, showing profits running 17 per cent down after nine months of the 1980/81 period, are expected to reflect the impact of high sterling and competitive market conditions in Lloyd's insurance broking.

At the beginning of the year Minet indicated that its ambition was to maintain profits at the level of the 1979/80 level of £8.4m. That now looks improbable, especially since the costs of a limited redundancy programme will be taken in the first quarter.

Minet Holdings, showing profits running 17 per cent down after nine months of the 1980/81 period, are expected to reflect the impact of high sterling and competitive market conditions in Lloyd's insurance broking.

At the beginning of the year Minet indicated that its ambition was to maintain profits at the level of the 1979/80 level of £8.4m. That now looks improbable, especially since the costs of a limited redundancy programme will be taken in the first quarter.

Minet Holdings, showing profits running 17 per cent down after nine months of the 1980/81 period, are expected to reflect the impact of high sterling and competitive market conditions in Lloyd's insurance broking.

At the beginning of the year Minet indicated that its ambition was to maintain profits at the level of the 1979/80 level of £8.4m. That now looks improbable, especially since the costs of a limited redundancy programme will be taken in the first quarter.

Minet Holdings, showing profits running 17 per cent down after nine months of the 1







## Stock Exchange Prices

## Rally after hours

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 24. Dealings End, Today. Contango Day, Jan 12. Settlement Day, Jan 19.  
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days
**BELL'S**  
**SCOTCH WHISKY**  
**BELL'S**

1980/81 High Low Stock				1980/81 High Low Company				1980/81 High Low Company				1980/81 High Low Company				1980/81 High Low Company			
Price Change				Price Change				Price Change				Price Change				Price Change			
Yield %				Yield %				Yield %				Yield %				Yield %			
Gross Div P/E				Gross Div P/E				Gross Div P/E				Gross Div P/E				Gross Div P/E			
Net Div P/E				Net Div P/E				Net Div P/E				Net Div P/E				Net Div P/E			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend				Dividend			
Dividend				Dividend				Dividend											







## Motoring

### 42% of homes without a car in 1979

Private motoring is so much taken for granted these days that it always comes as a surprise to discover how many households in Britain are still without the regular use of a car.

According to statistics just issued by the Department of Transport, the number of car-less homes in 1979 was 42 per cent, which hardly squares with the popular view of a nation that has totally surrendered to the internal combustion engine.

And yet the figures also show that the car population has been rising steadily with results that are all too familiar—increasing traffic congestion and pressure on parking space and a steady, probably irreversible, decline in public transport.

That seeming paradox may be explained by another set of official statistics which relate to one and two-car households. Going back to 1961, we find that only 2 per cent of homes had two or more cars. In 1979 the proportion was 13 per cent, a more than sixfold increase.

To make the point another way, the percentage of households with the use of one car was the same in 1979 as it was 10 years earlier. But the number of two-car homes over this period more than doubled. In other words, many of the extra cars were being acquired by households that already had one.

The implication is that Britain is in danger of becoming divided, in motoring terms, into haves and have-nots in a more profound way than ever before. Certainly there is much more difference in owning, or not owning, a car now than there was 25 years ago.

Until about the mid-1950s car ownership in Britain was confined to a small minority. The mass of people used trains and buses as a matter of course, and in doing so created even demand to ensure that public transport services were reasonably comprehensive.

But the dramatic expansion of the car population in the late 1950s and early 1960s meant that many who had been content to stand at bus stops or on railway platforms no longer needed to do so, nor, more important, were they prepared to.

During that period the Beeching report appeared, proposing drastic cuts in rail branch lines, and country bus services started to be withdrawn in large numbers. For those without a car it became increasingly difficult to get about.

Twenty years on, public transport in rural areas has been further depleted, and even in the densely populated commuter areas of London there is talk of closing stations in the evening and at weekends.

As often happens, averages conceal wide variations. In the South-east, the South-west and East Anglia, car ownership extends to two households in three. But in Yorkshire and the North-east the proportion is only one in two, while in Scotland it is less than half.

The Department of Transport forecasts a steady growth in the car population up to the end of the century and beyond. In 1979 there were 26 cars per 100 people and by 2005, according to the lower estimate, there will be 39, or half as many again. The upper estimate for 2005 is 45 per 100.

If those predictions are correct, the immediate question is where are all the extra vehicles to go. Already at certain times (rush hours in the big cities and in certain places (holiday resorts in season) there are too many cars for comfort.

The other consideration is how the future increase in the car population will be distributed. If recent trends continue more of the additional vehicles will go to households which already have cars than ones that do not, leaving the have-nots even more at the mercy of deteriorating public transport.

How reliable? According to *Motoring Which?*, the magazine of the Consumers' Association, even cars up to three years old have a one in four chance of breaking down or failing to start once in

areas of London there is talk of closing stations in the evening and at weekends.

As often happens, averages conceal wide variations. In the South-east, the South-west and East Anglia, car ownership extends to two households in three. But in Yorkshire and the North-east the proportion is only one in two, while in Scotland it is less than half.

The Department of Transport forecasts a steady growth in the car population up to the end of the century and beyond. In 1979 there were 26 cars per 100 people and by 2005, according to the lower estimate, there will be 39, or half as many again. The upper estimate for 2005 is 45 per 100.

If those predictions are correct, the immediate question is where are all the extra vehicles to go. Already at certain times (rush hours in the big cities and in certain places (holiday resorts in season) there are too many cars for comfort.

The other consideration is how the future increase in the car population will be distributed. If recent trends continue more of the additional vehicles will go to households which already have cars than ones that do not, leaving the have-nots even more at the mercy of deteriorating public transport.

How reliable? According to *Motoring Which?*, the magazine of the Consumers' Association, even cars up to three years old have a one in four chance of breaking down or failing to start once in

areas of London there is talk of closing stations in the evening and at weekends. As often happens, averages conceal wide variations. In the South-east, the South-west and East Anglia, car ownership extends to two households in three. But in Yorkshire and the North-east the proportion is only one in two, while in Scotland it is less than half.

The Department of Transport forecasts a steady growth in the car population up to the end of the century and beyond. In 1979 there were 26 cars per 100 people and by 2005, according to the lower estimate, there will be 39, or half as many again. The upper estimate for 2005 is 45 per 100.

If those predictions are correct, the immediate question is where are all the extra vehicles to go. Already at certain times (rush hours in the big cities and in certain places (holiday resorts in season) there are too many cars for comfort.

The other consideration is how the future increase in the car population will be distributed. If recent trends continue more of the additional vehicles will go to households which already have cars than ones that do not, leaving the have-nots even more at the mercy of deteriorating public transport.

How reliable? According to *Motoring Which?*, the magazine of the Consumers' Association, even cars up to three years old have a one in four chance of breaking down or failing to start once in

areas of London there is talk of closing stations in the evening and at weekends. As often happens, averages conceal wide variations. In the South-east, the South-west and East Anglia, car ownership extends to two households in three. But in Yorkshire and the North-east the proportion is only one in two, while in Scotland it is less than half.

The Department of Transport forecasts a steady growth in the car population up to the end of the century and beyond. In 1979 there were 26 cars per 100 people and by 2005, according to the lower estimate, there will be 39, or half as many again. The upper estimate for 2005 is 45 per 100.

If those predictions are correct, the immediate question is where are all the extra vehicles to go. Already at certain times (rush hours in the big cities and in certain places (holiday resorts in season) there are too many cars for comfort.

The other consideration is how the future increase in the car population will be distributed. If recent trends continue more of the additional vehicles will go to households which already have cars than ones that do not, leaving the have-nots even more at the mercy of deteriorating public transport.

How reliable? According to *Motoring Which?*, the magazine of the Consumers' Association, even cars up to three years old have a one in four chance of breaking down or failing to start once in

areas of London there is talk of closing stations in the evening and at weekends. As often happens, averages conceal wide variations. In the South-east, the South-west and East Anglia, car ownership extends to two households in three. But in Yorkshire and the North-east the proportion is only one in two, while in Scotland it is less than half.

The Department of Transport forecasts a steady growth in the car population up to the end of the century and beyond. In 1979 there were 26 cars per 100 people and by 2005, according to the lower estimate, there will be 39, or half as many again. The upper estimate for 2005 is 45 per 100.

If those predictions are correct, the immediate question is where are all the extra vehicles to go. Already at certain times (rush hours in the big cities and in certain places (holiday resorts in season) there are too many cars for comfort.

The other consideration is how the future increase in the car population will be distributed. If recent trends continue more of the additional vehicles will go to households which already have cars than ones that do not, leaving the have-nots even more at the mercy of deteriorating public transport.

How reliable? According to *Motoring Which?*, the magazine of the Consumers' Association, even cars up to three years old have a one in four chance of breaking down or failing to start once in

areas of London there is talk of closing stations in the evening and at weekends. As often happens, averages conceal wide variations. In the South-east, the South-west and East Anglia, car ownership extends to two households in three. But in Yorkshire and the North-east the proportion is only one in two, while in Scotland it is less than half.

The Department of Transport forecasts a steady growth in the car population up to the end of the century and beyond. In 1979 there were 26 cars per 100 people and by 2005, according to the lower estimate, there will be 39, or half as many again. The upper estimate for 2005 is 45 per 100.

If those predictions are correct, the immediate question is where are all the extra vehicles to go. Already at certain times (rush hours in the big cities and in certain places (holiday resorts in season) there are too many cars for comfort.

The other consideration is how the future increase in the car population will be distributed. If recent trends continue more of the additional vehicles will go to households which already have cars than ones that do not, leaving the have-nots even more at the mercy of deteriorating public transport.

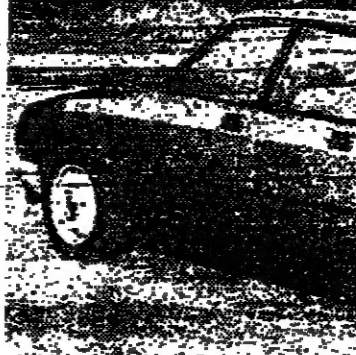
How reliable? According to *Motoring Which?*, the magazine of the Consumers' Association, even cars up to three years old have a one in four chance of breaking down or failing to start once in

areas of London there is talk of closing stations in the evening and at weekends. As often happens, averages conceal wide variations. In the South-east, the South-west and East Anglia, car ownership extends to two households in three. But in Yorkshire and the North-east the proportion is only one in two, while in Scotland it is less than half.

The Department of Transport forecasts a steady growth in the car population up to the end of the century and beyond. In 1979 there were 26 cars per 100 people and by 2005, according to the lower estimate, there will be 39, or half as many again. The upper estimate for 2005 is 45 per 100.

If those predictions are correct, the immediate question is where are all the extra vehicles to go. Already at certain times (rush hours in the big cities and in certain places (holiday resorts in season) there are too many cars for comfort.

The other consideration is how the future increase in the car population will be distributed. If recent trends continue more of the additional vehicles will go to households which already have cars than ones that do not, leaving the have-nots even more at the mercy of deteriorating public transport.



Ten years on—the Citroën GS

a year, and three out of five are likely to suffer at least one major fault a year. On older cars, the chances of trouble are correspondingly higher.

It is, of course, difficult to predict how reliable a car is going to be, though for many motorists such information is a lot more desirable than knowing the vehicle's technical specification or even its performance figures.

The only regular attempt to assess reliability, make by make, is that made by *Motoring Which?* on the basis of information supplied by a sample of members. Such data must, to some extent, be subjective and random though, and assumed by the magazine that manufacturers do take its findings seriously.

The latest *Motoring Which?* survey, in which 22,000 motorists took part, confirms the traditional reliability of Japanese, German and Swedish makes: all appear in the two leading categories. The full list is as follows:

Goodies: BMW, Colt, Honda, Mazda, Mercedes-Benz, Opel, Toyota, Volkswagen/Audi and Volvo.

Almost goodies: Datsun, Saab and Vauxhall.

Cars in the middle: Austin Morris, Ford, Lada, Reliant, Rover, Skoda and Triumph.

Cars with weakspots: Alfa Romeo, Citroën, Jaguar/Daimler, Lancia, Peugeot, Renault and Talbot.

Baddies: Fiat and Polski-Fiat.

The high rating of Vauxhall—and particularly of the Cavalier model—reflects the striking improvement in the range in recent years. But *Which?* notes that in Rover's case, discontinued models are relatively more reliable than the current ones.

The report makes a useful distinction between mechanical reliability and deterioration through rust. It suggests, for instance, that while Datsun cars are likely to give little trouble, their corrosion record is worse than average.



Ten years on—the Citroën GS

a year, and three out of five are likely to suffer at least one major fault a year. On older cars, the chances of trouble are correspondingly higher.

It is, of course, difficult to predict how reliable a car is going to be, though for many motorists such information is a lot more desirable than knowing the vehicle's technical specification or even its performance figures.

The only regular attempt to assess reliability, make by make, is that made by *Motoring Which?* on the basis of information supplied by a sample of members. Such data must, to some extent, be subjective and random though, and assumed by the magazine that manufacturers do take its findings seriously.

The latest *Motoring Which?* survey, in which 22,000 motorists took part, confirms the traditional reliability of Japanese, German and Swedish makes: all appear in the two leading categories. The full list is as follows:

Goodies: BMW, Colt, Honda, Mazda, Mercedes-Benz, Opel, Toyota, Volkswagen/Audi and Volvo.

Almost goodies: Datsun, Saab and Vauxhall.

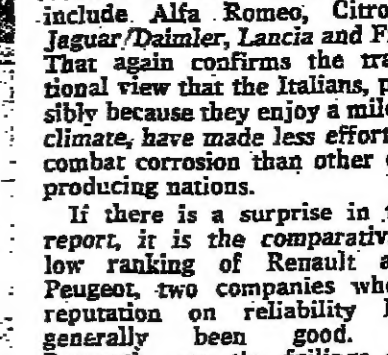
Cars in the middle: Austin Morris, Ford, Lada, Reliant, Rover, Skoda and Triumph.

Cars with weakspots: Alfa Romeo, Citroën, Jaguar/Daimler, Lancia, Peugeot, Renault and Talbot.

Baddies: Fiat and Polski-Fiat.

The high rating of Vauxhall—and particularly of the Cavalier model—reflects the striking improvement in the range in recent years. But *Which?* notes that in Rover's case, discontinued models are relatively more reliable than the current ones.

The report makes a useful distinction between mechanical reliability and deterioration through rust. It suggests, for instance, that while Datsun cars are likely to give little trouble, their corrosion record is worse than average.



Ten years on—the Citroën GS

a year, and three out of five are likely to suffer at least one major fault a year. On older cars, the chances of trouble are correspondingly higher.

It is, of course, difficult to predict how reliable a car is going to be, though for many motorists such information is a lot more desirable than knowing the vehicle's technical specification or even its performance figures.

The only regular attempt to assess reliability, make by make, is that made by *Motoring Which?* on the basis of information supplied by a sample of members. Such data must, to some extent, be subjective and random though, and assumed by the magazine that manufacturers do take its findings seriously.

The latest *Motoring Which?* survey, in which 22,000 motorists took part, confirms the traditional reliability of Japanese, German and Swedish makes: all appear in the two leading categories. The full list is as follows:

Goodies: BMW, Colt, Honda, Mazda, Mercedes-Benz, Opel, Toyota, Volkswagen/Audi and Volvo.

Almost goodies: Datsun, Saab and Vauxhall.

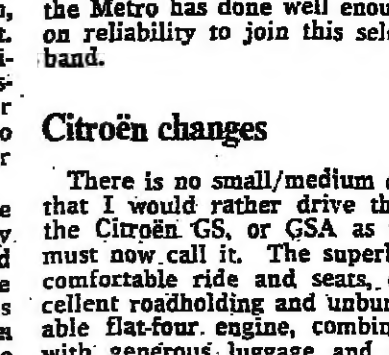
Cars in the middle: Austin Morris, Ford, Lada, Reliant, Rover, Skoda and Triumph.

Cars with weakspots: Alfa Romeo, Citroën, Jaguar/Daimler, Lancia, Peugeot, Renault and Talbot.

Baddies: Fiat and Polski-Fiat.

The high rating of Vauxhall—and particularly of the Cavalier model—reflects the striking improvement in the range in recent years. But *Which?* notes that in Rover's case, discontinued models are relatively more reliable than the current ones.

The report makes a useful distinction between mechanical reliability and deterioration through rust. It suggests, for instance, that while Datsun cars are likely to give little trouble, their corrosion record is worse than average.



Ten years on—the Citroën GS

a year, and three out of five are likely to suffer at least one major fault a year. On older cars, the chances of trouble are correspondingly higher.

It is, of course, difficult to predict how reliable a car is going to be, though for many motorists such information is a lot more desirable than knowing the vehicle's technical specification or even its performance figures.

The only regular attempt to assess reliability, make by make, is that made by *Motoring Which?* on the basis of information supplied by a sample of members. Such data must, to some extent, be subjective and random though, and assumed by the magazine that manufacturers do take its findings seriously.

The latest *Motoring Which?* survey, in which 22,000 motorists took part, confirms the traditional reliability of Japanese, German and Swedish makes: all appear in the two leading categories. The full list is as follows:

Goodies: BMW, Colt, Honda, Mazda, Mercedes-Benz, Opel, Toyota, Volkswagen/Audi and Volvo.

Almost goodies: Datsun, Saab and Vauxhall.

Cars in the middle: Austin Morris, Ford, Lada, Reliant, Rover, Skoda and Triumph.

Cars with weakspots: Alfa Romeo, Citroën, Jaguar/Daimler, Lancia, Peugeot, Renault and Talbot.

Baddies: Fiat and Polski-Fiat.

The high rating of Vauxhall—and particularly of the Cavalier model—reflects the striking improvement in the range in recent years. But *Which?* notes that in Rover's case, discontinued models are relatively more reliable than the current ones.

The report makes a useful distinction between mechanical reliability and deterioration through rust. It suggests, for instance, that while Datsun cars are likely to give little trouble, their corrosion record is worse than average.

## Other Appointments on page 19

### GENERAL VACANCIES

#### ST THOMAS' HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL

##### FIELDWORKER

Required mid February. To join team concerned with National Study of Health and Growth in Primary School Children. Applicant will be based in London but will be required to travel throughout the United Kingdom for approximately three to four months of the year. Interest in health services research desirable, and a current driving licence is essential. Salary scale: £5,500-£10,000 p.a. plus expenses. For full details and application form, please write to: Dr. M. G. M. Jones, Personnel Officer, St. Thomas' Hospital Medical School, Department of Paediatrics, Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EH. Closing date for applications: 20 January 1981.

##### BIT

The Victorian Technology Company, offers a 6 month contract to a flexible and motivated individual with knowledge of telecommunications applications. Ring: 01-336 1360.

##### INTERIOR DESIGNER in Plinville

Experienced Person. Free. Expensive. Ref: 794 8467.

### GENERAL VACANCIES

#### EGON RONAY ORGANISATION

require inspectors based in or within commuting distance from London. Constant training and development. Good salary and benefits. For full details and application form, please write to: Egon Ronay Organisation, c/o The Times, 1, The Quadrant, London SW1E 5JH.

##### ENERGETIC PERSON

for well known Commonwealth company to help with the planning and execution of a new young travellers club. Telephone 01-930 1671.

##### RETIRED COMPANY SECRETARY

2/3 day week. Hours vary. Write to: T. J. Jones, c/o The Times, 1, The Quadrant, London SW1E 5JH.

##### CONSULTANT CARDIOLOGIST

Specialist in heart disease and hypertension. For full details and application form, please write to: Dr. M. G. M. Jones, Personnel Officer, St. Thomas' Hospital Medical School, Department of Paediatrics, Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EH. Closing date for applications: 20 January 1981.

##### COURIER, GREEK ISLANDS

Specialist courier company needs a courier for the Greek Islands. For full details and application form, please write to: T. J. Jones, c/o The Times, 1, The Quadrant, London SW1E 5JH.

##### SOUTH AMERICAN SPANISH

Temp. position. For full details and application form, please write to: T. J. Jones, c/o The Times, 1, The Quadrant, London SW1E 5JH.

## GENERAL VACANCIES

### COURTIERS—French German and Italian

to act as couriers on European continent in 1981. After April, May to July to the end of September. Applicants from countries where visas are not required. For full details and application form, please write to: T. J. Jones, c/o The Times, 1, The Quadrant, London SW1E 5JH.

### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

#### University of Bath

SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for each of the following fields:

1. MANAGERIAL ACCOUNTING OR FINANCIAL CONTROL (Ref: 90/171)

2. INDUSTRIAL ECONOMICS AND MARKETING (Ref: 90/172)

Yentable from 1st September, 1981. Salary range £3,500-£11,000 p.a. For full details and application form, please write to: T. J. Jones, c/o The Times, 1, The Quadrant, London SW1E 5JH.

### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

#### University of Swansea

Chair of Zoology Applications are invited for the Chair of Zoology and the Headship of the Department of Zoology, which will become vacant on September 30, 1981. The incumbent will be responsible for the department and for the University College of Swansea. For full details and application form, please write to: T. J. Jones, c/o The Times, 1, The Quadrant, London SW1E 5JH.

### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

#### University of Bradford

Applications are invited for the Chair of Chemical Engineering, which will become vacant on September 30, 1981. The incumbent will be responsible for the department and for the University of Bradford. For full details and application form, please write to: T. J. Jones, c/o The Times, 1, The Quadrant, London SW1E 5JH.

### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

#### University of Exeter

Applications are invited for the Chair of Mathematics, which will become vacant on September 30, 1981. The incumbent will be responsible for the department and for the University of Exeter. For full details and application form, please write to: T. J. Jones, c/o The Times, 1, The Quadrant, London SW1E 5JH.

### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

#### University of Hull

Applications are invited for the Chair of Physics, which will become vacant on September 30, 1981. The incumbent will be responsible for the department and for the University of Hull. For full details and application form, please write to: T. J. Jones, c/o The Times, 1, The Quadrant, London SW1E 5JH.

### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

#### University of Leeds

Applications are invited for the Chair of Chemistry, which will become vacant on September 30, 1981. The incumbent will be responsible for the department and for the University of Leeds. For full details and application form, please write to: T. J. Jones, c/o The Times, 1, The Quadrant, London SW1E 5JH.

### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

#### University of Liverpool

Applications are invited for the Chair of Biology, which will become vacant on September 30, 1981. The incumbent will be responsible for the department and for the University of Liverpool. For full details and application form, please write to: T. J. Jones, c/o The Times, 1, The Quadrant, London SW1E 5JH.

### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

#### University of Manchester

Applications are invited for the Chair of Economics, which will become vacant on September 30, 1981. The incumbent will be responsible for the department and for the University of Manchester. For full details and application form, please write to: T. J. Jones, c/o The Times, 1, The Quadrant, London SW1E 5JH.

### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

#### University of Nottingham

Applications are invited for the Chair of History, which will become vacant on September 30, 1981. The incumbent will be responsible for the department and for the University of Nottingham. For full details and application form, please write to: T. J. Jones, c/o The Times, 1, The Quadrant, London SW1E 5JH.

### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

#### University of Oxford

Applications are invited for the Chair of Law, which will become vacant on September 30, 1981. The incumbent will be responsible for the department and for the University of Oxford. For full details and application form, please write to: T. J. Jones, c/o The Times, 1, The Quadrant, London SW1E 5JH.

### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

#### University of Plymouth

Applications are invited for the Chair of Geography, which will become vacant on September 30, 1981. The incumbent will be responsible for the department and for the University of Plymouth. For full details and application form, please write to: T. J. Jones, c/o The Times, 1, The Quadrant, London SW1E 5JH.

### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

#### University of Reading

Applications are invited for the Chair of Medicine, which will become vacant on September 30, 1981. The incumbent will be responsible for the department and for the University of Reading. For full details and application form, please write to: T. J. Jones, c/o The Times, 1, The Quadrant, London SW1E 5JH.

### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

#### University of Sheffield

Applications are invited for the Chair of Education, which will become vacant on September 30, 1981. The incumbent will be responsible for the department and for the University of Sheffield. For full details and application form, please write to: T. J. Jones, c/o The Times, 1, The Quadrant, London SW1E 5JH.

### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS







## PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 20

## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

## IT TAKES JUST FOUR HOURS TO TRAVEL BACK 4000 YEARS

Gatwick-Santorini direct. Available this summer only from Summer. Phone anytime for the holiday brochure that starts where the others leave off.

SUNMED  
453 Fulham Road, London, S.W.10.  
Tel. 01-351 2366 (24 hrs.). ABTA ATOL 382B.

## GREEK ISLANDS

## CORFU-CRETE

## SPETSE

We are pleased to be able to offer a selection of family holiday packages to the most beautiful islands in the whole of Greece. The islands are small, unspoiled and offer the most memorable holiday for yourself or your family.

## LEDCO LTD.

257-259 Brunner Park Road, London, W.11.  
Tel. 01-351 3344.

## A HOLIDAY IN A SECLUDED GREEK ISLAND VILLA

Our 1981 brochure is now out. It features the best in Greek island life. Discover the beauty of the islands and the charm of the villages. From £200-£300 pp. 2 weeks. Tel. 01-351 3344.

## CORFU VILLAS LTD.

Individual holiday homes for individual people. 43 Chelmsford Road, London, E.12. Tel. 01-559 0151/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/10/11/12/13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20/21/22/23/24/25/26/27/28/29/30/31/32/33/34/35/36/37/38/39/40/41/42/43/44/45/46/47/48/49/50/51/52/53/54/55/56/57/58/59/60/61/62/63/64/65/66/67/68/69/70/71/72/73/74/75/76/77/78/79/80/81/82/83/84/85/86/87/88/89/90/91/92/93/94/95/96/97/98/99/100/101/102/103/104/105/106/107/108/109/110/111/112/113/114/115/116/117/118/119/120/121/122/123/124/125/126/127/128/129/130/131/132/133/134/135/136/137/138/139/140/141/142/143/144/145/146/147/148/149/150/151/152/153/154/155/156/157/158/159/160/161/162/163/164/165/166/167/168/169/170/171/172/173/174/175/176/177/178/179/180/181/182/183/184/185/186/187/188/189/190/191/192/193/194/195/196/197/198/199/200/201/202/203/204/205/206/207/208/209/210/211/212/213/214/215/216/217/218/219/220/221/222/223/224/225/226/227/228/229/230/231/232/233/234/235/236/237/238/239/240/241/242/243/244/245/246/247/248/249/250/251/252/253/254/255/256/257/258/259/260/261/262/263/264/265/266/267/268/269/270/271/272/273/274/275/276/277/278/279/280/281/282/283/284/285/286/287/288/289/290/291/292/293/294/295/296/297/298/299/300/301/302/303/304/305/306/307/308/309/310/311/312/313/314/315/316/317/318/319/320/321/322/323/324/325/326/327/328/329/330/331/332/333/334/335/336/337/338/339/340/341/342/343/344/345/346/347/348/349/350/351/352/353/354/355/356/357/358/359/360/361/362/363/364/365/366/367/368/369/370/371/372/373/374/375/376/377/378/379/380/381/382/383/384/385/386/387/388/389/390/391/392/393/394/395/396/397/398/399/400/401/402/403/404/405/406/407/408/409/410/411/412/413/414/415/416/417/418/419/420/421/422/423/424/425/426/427/428/429/430/431/432/433/434/435/436/437/438/439/440/441/442/443/444/445/446/447/448/449/450/451/452/453/454/455/456/457/458/459/460/461/462/463/464/465/466/467/468/469/470/471/472/473/474/475/476/477/478/479/480/481/482/483/484/485/486/487/488/489/490/491/492/493/494/495/496/497/498/499/500/501/502/503/504/505/506/507/508/509/510/511/512/513/514/515/516/517/518/519/520/521/522/523/524/525/526/527/528/529/530/531/532/533/534/535/536/537/538/539/540/541/542/543/544/545/546/547/548/549/550/551/552/553/554/555/556/557/558/559/560/561/562/563/564/565/566/567/568/569/570/571/572/573/574/575/576/577/578/579/580/581/582/583/584/585/586/587/588/589/590/591/592/593/594/595/596/597/598/599/600/601/602/603/604/605/606/607/608/609/610/611/612/613/614/615/616/617/618/619/620/621/622/623/624/625/626/627/628/629/630/631/632/633/634/635/636/637/638/639/640/641/642/643/644/645/646/647/648/649/650/651/652/653/654/655/656/657/658/659/660/661/662/663/664/665/666/667/668/669/670/671/672/673/674/675/676/677/678/679/680/681/682/683/684/685/686/687/688/689/690/691/692/693/694/695/696/697/698/699/700/701/702/703/704/705/706/707/708/709/710/711/712/713/714/715/716/717/718/719/720/721/722/723/724/725/726/727/728/729/730/731/732/733/734/735/736/737/738/739/740/741/742/743/744/745/746/747/748/749/750/751/752/753/754/755/756/757/758/759/760/761/762/763/764/765/766/767/768/769/770/771/772/773/774/775/776/777/778/779/780/781/782/783/784/785/786/787/788/789/790/791/792/793/794/795/796/797/798/799/800/801/802/803/804/805/806/807/808/809/810/811/812/813/814/815/816/817/818/819/820/821/822/823/824/825/826/827/828/829/830/831/832/833/834/835/836/837/838/839/840/841/842/843/844/845/846/847/848/849/850/851/852/853/854/855/856/857/858/859/860/861/862/863/864/865/866/867/868/869/870/871/872/873/874/875/876/877/878/879/880/881/882/883/884/885/886/887/888/889/890/891/892/893/894/895/896/897/898/899/900/901/902/903/904/905/906/907/908/909/910/911/912/913/914/915/916/917/918/919/920/921/922/923/924/925/926/927/928/929/930/931/932/933/934/935/936/937/938/939/940/941/942/943/944/945/946/947/948/949/950/951/952/953/954/955/956/957/958/959/960/961/962/963/964/965/966/967/968/969/970/971/972/973/974/975/976/977/978/979/980/981/982/983/984/985/986/987/988/989/990/991/992/993/994/995/996/997/998/999/1000/1001/1002/1003/1004/1005/1006/1007/1008/1009/1010/1011/1012/1013/1014/1015/1016/1017/1018/1019/1020/1021/1022/1023/1024/1025/1026/1027/1028/1029/1030/1031/1032/1033/1034/1035/1036/1037/1038/1039/1040/1041/1042/1043/1044/1045/1046/1047/1048/1049/1050/1051/1052/1053/1054/1055/1056/1057/1058/1059/1060/1061/1062/1063/1064/1065/1066/1067/1068/1069/1070/1071/1072/1073/1074/1075/1076/1077/1078/1079/1080/1081/1082/1083/1084/1085/1086/1087/1088/1089/1090/1091/1092/1093/1094/1095/1096/1097/1098/1099/1100/1101/1102/1103/1104/1105/1106/1107/1108/1109/1110/1111/1112/1113/1114/1115/1116/1117/1118/1119/1120/1121/1122/1123/1124/1125/1126/1127/1128/1129/1130/1131/1132/1133/1134/1135/1136/1137/1138/1139/1140/1141/1142/1143/1144/1145/1146/1147/1148/1149/1150/1151/1152/1153/1154/1155/1156/1157/1158/1159/1160/1161/1162/1163/1164/1165/1166/1167/1168/1169/1170/1171/1172/1173/1174/1175/1176/1177/1178/1179/1180/1181/1182/1183/1184/1185/1186/1187/1188/1189/1190/1191/1192/1193/1194/1195/1196/1197/1198/1199/1200/1201/1202/1203/1204/1205/1206/1207/1208/1209/1210/1211/1212/1213/1214/1215/1216/1217/1218/1219/1220/1221/1222/1223/1224/1225/1226/1227/1228/1229/1230/1231/1232/1233/1234/1235/1236/1237/1238/1239/1240/1241/1242/1243/1244/1245/1246/1247/1248/1249/1250/1251/1252/1253/1254/1255/1256/1257/1258/1259/1260/1261/1262/1263/1264/1265/1266/1267/1268/1269/1270/1271/1272/1273/1274/1275/1276/1277/1278/1279/1280/1281/1282/1283/1284/1285/1286/1287/1288/1289/1290/1291/1292/1293/1294/1295/1296/1297/1298/1299/1300/1301/1302/1303/1304/1305/1306/1307/1308/1309/1310/1311/1312/1313/1314/1315/1316/1317/1318/1319/1320/1321/1322/1323/1324/1325/1326/1327/1328/1329/1330/1331/1332/1333/1334/1335/1336/1337/1338/1339/1340/1341/1342/1343/1344/1345/1346/1347/1348/1349/1350/1351/1352/1353/1354/1355/1356/1357/1358/1359/1360/1361/1362/1363/1364/1365/1366/1367/1368/1369/1370/1371/1372/1373/1374/1375/1376/1377/1378/1379/1380/1381/1382/1383/1384/1385/1386/1387/1388/1389/1390/1391/1392/1393/1394/1395/1396/1397/1398/1399/1400/1401/1402/1403/1404/1405/1406/1407/1408/1409/1410/1411/1412/1413/1414/1415/1416/1417/1418/1419/1420/1421/1422/1423/1424/1425/1426/1427/1428/1429/1430/1431/1432/1433/1434/1435/1436/1437/1438/1439/1440/1441/1442/1443/1444/1445/1446/1447/1448/1449/1450/1451/1452/1453/1454/1455/1456/1457/1458/1459/1460/1461/1462/1463/1464/1465/1466/1467/1468/1469/1470/1471/1472/1473/1474/1475/1476/1477/1478/1479/1480/1481/1482/1483/1484/1485/1486/1487/1488/1489/1490/1491/1492/1493/1494/1495/1496/1497/1498/1499/1500/1501/1502/1503/1504/1505/1506/1507/1508/1509/1510/1511/1512/1513/1514/1515/1516/1517/1518/1519/1520/1521/1522/1523/1524/1525/1526/1527/1528/1529/1530/1531/1532/1533/1534/1535/1536/1537/1538/1539/1540/1541/1542/1543/1544/1545/1546/1547/1548/1549/1550/1551/1552/1553/1554/1555/1556/1557/1558/1559/1560/1561/1562/1563/1564/1565/1566/1567/1568/1569/1570/1571/1572/1573/1574/1575/1576/1577/1578/1579/1580/1581/1582/1583/1584/1585/1586/1587/1588/1589/1590/1591/1592/1593/1594/1595/1596/1597/1598/1599/1600/1601/1602/1603/1604/1605/1606/1607/1608/1609/1610/1611/1612/1613/1614/1615/1616/1617/1618/1619/1620/1621/1622/1623/1624/1625/1626/1627/1628/1629/1630/1631/1632/1633/1634/1635/1636/1637/1638/1639/1640/1641/1642/1643/1644/1645/1646/1647/1648/1649/1650/1651/1652/1653/1654/1655/1656/1657/1658/1659/1660/1661/1662/1663/1664/1665/1666/1667/1668/1669/1670/1671/1672/1673/1674/1675/1676/1677/1678/1679/1680/1681/1682/1683/1684/1685/1686/1687/1688/1689/1690/1691/1692/1693/1694/1695/1696/1697/1698/1699/1700/1701/1702/1703/1704/1705/1706/1707/1708/1709/1710/1711/1712/1713/1714/1715/1716/1717/1718/1719/1720/1721/1722/1723/1724/1725/1726/1727/1728/1729/1730/1731/1732/1733/1734/1735/1736/1737/1738/1739/1740/1741/1742/1743/1744/1745/1746/1747/1748/1749/1750/1751/1752/1753/1754/1755/1756/1757/1758/1759/1760/1761/1762/1763/1764/1765/1766/1767/1768/1769/1770/1771/1772/1773/1774/1775/1776/1777/1778/1779/1780/1781/1782/1783/1784/1785/1786/1787/1788/1789/1790/1791/1792/1793/1794/1795/1796/1797/1798/1799/1800/1801/1802/1803/1804/1805/1806/1807/1808/1809/1810/1811/1812/1813/1814/1815/1816/1817/1818/1819/1820/1821/1822/1823/1824/1825/1826/1827/1828/1829/1830/1831/1832/1833/1834/1835/1836/1837/1838/1839/1840/1841/1842/1843/1844/1845/1846/1847/1848/1849/1850/1851/1852/1853/1854/1855/1856/1857/1858/1859/1860/1861/1862/1863/1864/1865/1866/1867/1868/1869/1870/1871/1872/1873/1874/1875/1876/1877/1878/1879/1880/1881/1882/1883/1884/1885/1886/1887/1888/1889/1890/1891/1892/1893/1894/1895/1896/1897/1898/1899/1900/1901/1902/1903/1904/1905/1906/1907/1908/1909/1910/1911/1912/1913/1914/1915/1916/1917/1918/1919/1920/1921/1922/1923/1924/1925/1926/1927/1928/1929/1930/1931/1932/1933/1934/1935/1936/1937/1938/1939/1940/1941/1942/1943/1944/1945/1946/1947/1948/1949/1950/1951/1952/1953/1954/1955/1956/1957/1958/1959/1960/1961/1962/1963/1964/1965/1966/1967/1968/1969/1970/1971/1972/1973/1974/1975/1976/1977/1978/1979/1980/1981/1982/1983/1984/1985/1986/1987/1988/1989/1990/1991/1992/1993/1994/1995/1996/1997/1998/1999/2000/2001/2002/2003/2004/2005/2006/2007/2008/2009/2010/2011/2012/2013/2014/2015/2016/2017/2018/2019/2020/2021/2022/2023/2024/2025/2026/2027/2028/2029/2030/2031/2032/2033/2034/2035/2036/2037/2038/2039/2040/2041/2042/2043/2044/2045/2046/2047/2048/2049/2050/2051/2052/2053/2054/2055/2056/2057/2058/2059/2060/2061/2062/2063/2064/2065/2066/2067/2068/2069/2070/2071/2072/2073/2074/2075/2076/2077/2078/2079/2080/2081/2082/2083/2084/2085/2086/2087/2088/2089/2090/2091/2092/2093/2094/2095/2096/2097/2098/2099/2100/2101/2102/2103/2104/2105/2106/2107/2108/2109/2110/2111/2112/2113/2114/2115/2116/2117/2118/2119/2120/2121/2122/2123/2124/2125/2126/2127/2128/2129/2130/2131/2132/2133/2134/2135/2136/2137/2138/2139/2140/2141/2142/2143/2144/2145/2146/2147/2148/2149/2150/2151/2152/2153/2154/2155/2156/2157/2158/2159/2160/2161/2162/2163/2164/2165/2166/2167/2168/2169/2170/2171/2172/2173/2174/2175/2176/2177/2178/2179/2180/2181/2182/2183/2184/2185/2186/2187/2188/2189/2190/2191/2192/2193/2194/2195/2196/2197/2198/2199/2200/2201/2202/2203/2204/2205/2206/2207/2208/2209/2210/2211/2212/2213/2214/2215/2216/2217/2218/2219/2220/2221/2222/2223/2224/2225/2226/2227/2228/2229/2230/2231/2232/2233/2234/2235/2236/2237/2238/2239/2240/2241/2242/2243/2244/2245/2246/2247/2248/2249/2250/2251/2252/2253/2254/2255/2256/2257/2258/2259/2260/2261/2262/2263/2264/2265/2266/2267/2268/2269/2270/2271/2272/2273/2274/2275/2276/2277/2278/2279/2280/2281/2282/2283/2284/2285/2286/2287/2288/2289/2290/2291/2292/2293/2294/2295/2296/2297/2298/2299/2300/2301/2302/2303/2304/2305/2306/2307/2308/2309/2310/2311/2312/2313/2314/2315/2316/2317/2318/2319/2320/2321/2322/2323/2324/2325/2326/2327/2328/2329/2330/2331/2332/2333/2334/2335/2336/2337/2338/2339/2340/2341/2342/2343/2344/2345/2346/2347/2348/2349/2350/2351/2352/2353/2354/2355/2356/2357/2358/2359/2360/2361/2362/2363/2364/2365/2366/2367/2368/2369/2370/2371/2372/2373/2374/2375/2376/2377/2378/2379/2380/2381/2382/2383/2384/2385/2386/2387/2388/2389/2390/2391/2392/2393/2394/2395/2396/2397/2398/2399/2400/2401/2402/2403/2404/2405/2406/2407/2408/2409/2410/2411/2412/2413/2414/2415/2416/2417/2418/2419/2420/2421/2422/2423/2424/2425/2426/2427/2428/2429/2430/2431/2432/2433/2434/2435/2436/2437/2438/2439/2440/2441/2442/2443/2444/2445/2446/2447/2448/2449/2450/2451/2452/2453/2454/2455/2456/2457/2458/2459/2460/2461/2462/2463/2464/2465/2466/2467/2468/2469/2470/2471/2472/2473/2474/2475/2476/2477/2478/2479/2480/2481/2482/2483/2484/2485/2486/2487/2488/2489/2490/2491/2492/2493/2494/2495/2496/2497/2498/